

TC

2022 Talent Camp
Queensland

AFTRS

The next generation
of storytellers

Acknowledgement of Country

The Australian Film, Television and Radio School acknowledges the Traditional Custodians, the Bidjigal and Gadigal peoples of the Eora Nation, on whose unceded lands we meet, work, study, learn and teach. We pay our respects to Elders and Knowledge Holders past and present and extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait) Nations, who continue to occupy unceded ancestral, traditional, living lands that are now collectively known as Australia.

What is Talent Camp?

Talent Camp is a skills development program for creatives from diverse backgrounds, designed to provide opportunities for emerging storytellers to create new content and be employment ready for the screen sector.

The week-long state workshops will focus on story development, producing and directing considerations and career pathways, culminating in a networking event with experienced screen professionals.

A selection of up to 15 participants are accepted into each State Talent Camp through a competitive application process.

This year, Talent Camp will take place in May 2022 across Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Adelaide and Hobart.

Talent Camp is a multi-partner screen industry initiative, made possible with the support of AFTRS, Screen Australia, Screen NSW, Screen Queensland, VicScreen, South Australian Film Corporation and Screen Tasmania.





Alana Hicks

Alana is a Papua New Guinean/Australian writer, director and multi-platform creative. She was awarded first place in the 2020 SBS Emerging Writers' Competition. Her AACTA-nominated short film Chicken continues to play at festivals at home and abroad. She has just directed her first episode of broadcast TV for the ABC show PM's Daughter, and is currently in development on an original series concept about growing up mixed-raced in 90's Australia.



Majhid Heath

Majhid Heath's first short film, Brown Lips (2017), from writer/director Nakkiah Lui, screened both nationally and internationally. His second project, A Chance Affair (2018) from creator/writer Steven Oliver, screened on NITV and SBS On Demand in 2019. Majhid produced the Horror Anthology feature, Dark Place (2019) and also produced Arts TV Quiz show Faboriginal (2020). Majhid has produced several documentaries including, The Department (2022), Le Champion (2019), Power to the People – Love (2017), Cyber Dreaming (2014) and Message Stick - An Australian Storybook (2011). He's currently developing projects with Australian and international creatives through his production company, Noble Savage Pictures.



Stephen Lance

Stephen Lance is an award-winning director and writer of film and television. He wrote the screenplay for The Second, which won the Stan fully funded feature competition in 2017, and premiered on the streaming platform in 2018. My Mistress, his debut feature film, premiered at Melbourne International Film Festival in 2014. In 2015, he was nominated for an AWGIE award for best original screenplay for My Mistress. The screenplay was also selected for the No Borders market in New York and SPAAMart in 2011. He is currently working an adaptation of the best selling novel, THE SECRET LIVES OF DRESSES, and an original TV series, FORTUNE, for Hoodlum Entertainment.



Anthony Mullins

Anthony Mullins is an award-winning writer, director and script producer. Between 2015 and 2017 Anthony was a Development Executive at Matchbox Pictures, where he developed and script-edited Safe Harbour, winner of 2019 International Emmy for Best Mini-Series. Anthony script-produced the fourth season of Nowhere Boys for Matchbox, and the first season of Five Bedrooms for Ten and Hoodlum. In 2021, Anthony released Beyond the Hero's Journey: A screenwriting guide for when you've got a different story to tell, a look at the form of scripts. Anthony was the creative director of Hoodlum on several award-winning interactive projects for high-end productions, including Lost, Spooks, and The Bourne Legacy.



George Coles

George is a Wonnarua woman from the Hunter Valley region and is the First Nations Community Engagement Manager at AFTRS. A graduate of the School's Bachelor of Arts Screen: Production, George works with the First Nations and Outreach Division to deliver skills-based workshops and custom short courses to Indigenous communities and implements cultural wellbeing strategies for the First Nations students throughout the School. As a First Nations filmmaker, telling stories has always played a significant role in Georgia's life. Previously directing documentaries for NITV and assisting on community-driven projects, George is now devoting her skills to help other people tell their stories on a much bigger platform.



Marissa Ciampi

Within her role as Outreach Project Manager at AFTRS, Marissa supports Australia's diverse and emerging talent through initiatives like Talent Camp, Media Lab and nationwide community partnerships. Marissa has over 10 years' experience in creative management, copywriting, editing and marketing. Since 2019, she has worked within the First Nations & Outreach division at AFTRS to foster inclusion and belonging in the Australian screen industry. This is the second year she has delivered the Talent Camp workshops.

Participants

Alex Philp



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Alex is passionate about writing character-driven stories that focus on complex relationships between women.

Biography → Alex Philp writes both screenplays and prose. Working with her frequent collaborator, Luisa Martiri, she wrote the short films 'Milk' (2018) and 'Pools' (2020). Pools premiered at Flickerfest (2021) and was also an official selection for Show Me Shorts New Zealand and CinefestOZ. As a prose writer, her short fiction has been published in Overland, Westerly, Voiceworks and in the Review of Australian Fiction, and in 2017 she won the Rachel Funari Prize for Fiction. She has a PhD in Creative Writing from Queensland University of Technology.

Anna Loren



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Endlessly curious.

Biography → Anna Loren is a writer, actor, theatre-maker, and teaching artist. She was a finalist in the 2020-2021 Queensland Premier's Drama Award for her play, COMFORT, and received Playwriting Australia's Erin Thomas Playwright Fund, for her play, 22. Her short monologue, BURNING SEASON was commissioned as part of the Come to Where I am anthology with Critical Stages Touring and Paines Plough. Loren's screenplay, SUGARCANE was supported by La Boite Theatre and Screen Queensland through the Stage to Screen initiative. She holds an MA in Ensemble Theatre and sits on the board of Women in Film & Television as Deputy Chair.

Corey Ward



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“In real life, I’m life goals” — Jay Z

Biography → Corey Ward is of Torres Strait and Maori descent. In his creative capacity, Corey is an avid landscape and lifestyle photographer, videographer, and drone operator. Some of his photography work is currently on display at the Queensland Museum's Island Futures Exhibition and his video stock has been used in over three-years' worth of client videos, including footage and stills shown at the Cairns Indigenous Art Fair, the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair and broadcasted on television (NITV).

Courtney Cavallaro



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Courtney is very very serious about silliness and play.

Biography → Courtney invites honesty, vulnerability and glee into her work as both a writer and actor. Upon graduating WAAPA, she was awarded the Belinda Dunbar Prize which recognises the most outstanding Bachelor of Performing Arts graduate. During her time in Boorloo (Perth), she was nominated for Best Newcomer at the Performing Arts WA 2021 awards, performed in Sara DeLappe's Pulitzer Prize nominated work *The Wolves* and hosted pvi collective's *Disobedience Rules* gameshow. Most recently, her work *La Petite Morte* was performed in La Boite Theatre Company's *Assembly* showcase. Courtney loves bringing characters to life with rigour and humour.

Emma Dunlop



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A creative committed to writing unique, insightful, and thought-provoking stories.

Biography → Emma is a writer from Gubbi Gubbi country whose work often uses speculative fiction to explore character in raw and interesting ways. She has most recently written for *Sunshadow*, an Audible Original scripted narrative podcast and is actively developing a slate of feature and television projects. Emma has previously worked as a department coordinator on television series like *The Wilds* (Amazon Studios), *Young Rock* (NBC), and *Harrow* (ABC).

Grace Uther



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Grace Uther is a director and screenwriter based in Meanjin/Brisbane.

Biography → Grace Uther is a director and screenwriter based in Meanjin/Brisbane. Grace has written and directed a variety of projects, including The Brothers Book Club television pilot on ABC iView, Demolition: Staging a Protest (documentary), Demolition (art film), and Nineteen Ninety Nine (short film, thriller). Her work is featured on the AWG Pathways showcase. Grace is currently developing a slate of genre feature films and television.

Isabella Moore



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Interrogating our reality and meddling with the surreal.

Biography → Isabella is a Brisbane-based emerging director seeking to explore untold stories. Her most recent directing credits include a music video for indie pop artist Eloelo's single 'Teenage Movie' and an experimental short film 'LEMONS', which screened at several festivals including the St Kilda Film Festival, the Sydney Underground Film Festival and the West End Film Festival. As a Japanese-Australian woman, Isabella strives to use her work to foster a more diverse and inclusive film sector. With a taste for surrealism, she hopes her films will challenge audiences to question and interrogate who we are and the world around us.

Johnny Moubarak



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I love food and film.

Biography → My name is Johnny Moubarak and currently I am developing my TV series called Arabian Surfer. I am a director (and I own a restaurant with my brother (weird combo but so much fun)) with a passion for telling human stories. Australian-born to Lebanese parents, I understand the importance of bringing people from all walks of life together. And whether it be through food or film, there's always a story to be found.

Kantesha Rossie-Maree Takai



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Building a legacy and creating generational change.

Biography → Kantesha Takai is a Torres Strait and Wuthathi woman living on Kaurareg Country in Zenadth Kes (Torres Strait). Whilst she may be new to the screen industry, Kantesha has been writing and producing content and photography for over 13 years. In 2019, she amalgamated her content knowledge into a boutique creative agency called Lola Digital. In 2021, she was selected as an inaugural participant of the Screen Australia x Instagram First Nations Creators Program. Kantesha is currently completing a Master of Arts Screen: Business with AFTRS and she's driven to bring her stories to the big screen.

Luisa Martiri



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Luisa Martiri is a Brisbane-based filmmaker with a passion for authentic, poignant storytelling and showcasing female stories on screen.

Biography → Since the inception of Luisa's filmmaking career, she has assisted world-class television producers all while producing and directing her own short films. Most recently, she produced and co-directed the short film *The Moths Will Eat Them Up*, alongside writer and co-director Tanya Modini, as part of Screen Queensland's RIDE Initiative. Previously, she produced and directed the short films *Pools* (2020) and *Milk* (2018). *Pools* had its World Premiere at Flickerfest in 2021 and has since screened at CinefestOZ 2021 and Show Me Shorts New Zealand 2021. Currently, Luisa is building a slate of projects of her own.

Michaela Holmes



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Obsessed with cinema since she could talk, Michaela wants to create visceral, thought-provoking experiences for young women everywhere.

Biography → Michaela is a writer and director based in Brisbane. In 2019, Michaela graduated with her Masters in Directing at Australia's National film school, AFTRS. During this time, Michaela took interest in exploring the authentic portrayal of anxiety on screen, writing and directing her first short narrative drama, *My First Panic*. The work had its World Premiere at Flickerfest in 2020, screened at Festival Mental in Lisbon and debuted on ABC iView for Mental Health Week. Previously, she had been directing and editing music videos within Brisbane's thriving music scene, being featured on *Rage*, *Channel V*, *MTV*, *Pedestrian.TV* and *Rolling Stone Australia*. In her future work, she is interested in furthering her exploration of taboo issues, the depiction of young women in cinema and reducing societal stigma surrounding mental health. Michaela is currently in pre-production for her second short film, *Baptism*, and developing a feature script.

Miriam Dynevor



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Passionate about bringing Indigenous stories to the screen.

Biography → Miriam is a proud Indigenous woman, Kullilli on her mother's side and Gamilaraay, Ngoorabul and Wiradjuri on her father's side. She completed a Bachelor of Stage and Screen Arts (Acting) at the Australian Performing Arts Conservatory in 2020, from there Miriam developed an interest in filmmaking. She aims to deepen her knowledge by taking opportunities to work on films to gain more hands-on experience and confidence in her skills as an emerging filmmaker. Through her passion for Indigenous storytelling, Miriam hopes to bring as many Indigenous stories to the screen as she can over her career.

Nancy Cao



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“To know how to think with emotions and feel with intellect.”

Biography → Nancy Cao is a Gold Coast-based writer, film director and producer whose films are often marked by their poetic approach to both style and subject matter. Her graduation short film 'A Season In Hell' (2020) was screened at the Gold Coast Film Festival, Brisbane Queer Film Festival and Taiwan International Queer Film Festival. In 2021, she wrote, produced and directed 'Delta of Venus' (2021), a short film that is currently on the festival circuit and was recently selected by the Brisbane International Film Festival and Melbourne Women in Film Festival.

Nikita Gomes



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The first screenplay she ever wrote was a spec script for the TV show Charmed. She was eight.

Biography → Nikita is a Brisbane based script coordinator, notetaker, and emerging writer. Initially working in post-production, she soon changed lanes to fulfil her dream of becoming a writer. Since then, she has served as the Script Coordinator for season 2 of Ms Fisher's Modern Murder Mysteries and has worked as a notetaker in several writer's rooms for companies like Fremantle Media and Kojo Studios. In her work, the Fiji born Indian-Australian writer is passionate about representation and is interested in exploring themes of mental health, grief, and identity in a tender and darkly funny way.

Rae Choi



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“The most regretful people on earth are those who felt the call to creative work, who felt their own creative power restive and uprising, and gave it neither power nor time.” So here I am.

Biography → Rae Choi is a Meanjin-based filmmaker and intellectual property lawyer. Through her work as a producer (short film MY HOME IS A DOG THAT LIVES INSIDE ME and feature film PARIS FUNERAL, 1972), she's developed an affinity for hybrid style work with a focus on relational filmmaking practices. Turning towards writing and directing, Rae is currently working on projects which seek to examine intersectional identities within re-imagined contexts. She wrote and directed WHEN THE SKY WAS BLUE, a 16mm short film funded by Screen Queensland, and is co-writing and co-producing VIV'S SILLY MANGO, a comedy-drama for ABC Me and Screen Australia's joint initiative The Kaleidoscope Project.

Sio Tusa



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“I truly believe in the world changing power of individual/collective artistic expression through visual/audio story telling.”

Biography → Sio is a multi-award winning film writer/director - Sio was employed as a Pentecostal Missionary, Queensland Catholic & State High School Teacher, QLD Legal Aide Co-ordinator, SALVOS Crisis Support Worker and most recently a Queensland Police Liaison Officer. Sio underwent a Chief and full body tattooing ceremony. Sio is from Polynesian and Badu Island bloodlines. Sio is an Artist, Painter and Sculpture holding multiple Gallery exhibitions with art works in themes of identity, culture and politics. Sio's film making journey began when he started experimenting with gallery video installation art, his work organically evolving to documentary and drama film making.

Siobhan Domingo



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Loves everything film and television, lactose intolerant.

Biography → A Brisbane born-and-bred writer and director, Siobhan Domingo has been working in the Australian film industry in various roles since 2016. After graduating with her Bachelor of Film and Screen Media Production from GFS, Siobhan went on to complete her Masters of Screen Production under the John Bean Memorial Scholarship specialising in screenwriting, directing and cinematography. In 2021 Siobhan started development on the series 'How To Lose Weight and Survive The Apocalypse' in partnership with Screen Queensland and Wattpad Studios. A first-generation Australian, Siobhan finds much of her work inspired by her experiences growing up between two different cultures.

