



CREATIVE SHORTS FELLOWSHIP

MENTOR CRITERIA SHEET

As you begin selecting or have selected your mentors for the VMM Creative Shorts Fellowship, ask yourself what makes a great mentor? We, at Vision Maker Media, believe a great mentor will pass down knowledge to you that will last a lifetime. They are your teachers and biggest career advocates. We also believe that great mentors for this Fellowship will be committed to working with Vision Maker Media to mold you into a knowledgeable and strategic filmmaker for years to come. A great mentor will also teach you skills that will help you be the best person you can be in life.

Listed below are a few points of criteria Vision Maker Media would like to see from your Vision Maker Media Short Film Fellowship mentors:

- 1. Mentors will have at least three (3) years of professional experience in filmmaking or a related field, such as:**
 - Producing or directing long or short form narrative/documentary films
 - Working as an upper level educational instructor in film production, theatre, journalism, or Native American studies courses
 - Broadcast journalism related field work
 - Exceptions to these examples will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by Vision Maker Media.
- 2. All mentors should understand the stages of filmmaking in research and development, pre-production, production, and post production at an advanced, professional experienced level.**
- 3. Mentors are experienced with the ins and outs of projecting and generating budget reports and general ledgers. They are a knowledgeable wiz with Above the Line and Below the Line funding allocations via Microsoft Excel.**
- 4. Mentors have a love for teaching and will make themselves available to you in a timely manner when you need help, assistance or have questions.**
- 5. Preferably, mentors live within a 50 mile range to you geographically for an interactive experience. (Mentors not meeting this criteria will be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis by Vision Maker Media).**
- 6. Ideally, mentors have worked with Vision Maker Media on past projects for an in-depth knowledge, experience and training to making films at PBS standards of quality and complex rights agreements.**
- 7. Ideally, mentors have experience writing and applying for film funding through state and federal grants to share tips for your film grant writing, fundraising efforts.**