



Image from Public Media Fund, *FIRE TENDER*.

VISION MAKER MEDIA
NATIVE YOUTH MEDIA PROJECT

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Vision Maker Media's NATIVE YOUTH MEDIA PROJECT is now open for submissions

Call for submissions is YEAR-ROUND.

Call for submissions OPEN DATES: January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1; CLOSE DATES: March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31.

Selected Native Youth Media Project applicants will be notified within 8 weeks of close dates.

Storytelling remains a primary source of educating each other. Native American youth are our future, and like our elders, it will be incumbent upon them to eventually learn, protect, practice, maintain and in some cases revitalize Native cultural knowledge, science, and wisdom. Vision Maker Media's Native Youth Media Project works in partnership with Native youth organizations to mentor and train Native youth in storytelling skill sets for short-format media.

This partnership between Vision Maker Media and Native organizations and communities will work together to strengthen Native youth's story development for short-format media. Youth may produce short-format videos around such topics as science, health & wellness, climate & environment, education, art, culture, history, language, and empowerment. Finished videos are expected to be shared in a community engagement activity that is determined by the partner organization.



Image from Public Media Fund, *AND KNOWLEDGE TO KEEP US*.



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CRITERIA

The call for Native Youth Media Project partners is directed towards existing Native youth programs of 2-years or more, working with youth ages 15-24 years, in Native organizations and communities. The partnership is 100% collaborative where the partner has autonomy and oversight on the progress of the project, while Vision Maker Media contributes resources from our network of film and media makers. Vision Maker Media will collaborate with the community or organization on the training structure that works best for media development within the community and the existing youth program.

Vision Maker Media's Native Youth Media Project will engage Native youth to build skills towards story development for film and media. The intended outcome for the Native Youth Media Project is to produce a video piece around topics such as health & wellness, science, climate & environment, education, art, culture, history, language, and empowerment; and then the videos are shared in a community engagement that is determined by the partner organization.

FUNDING

Vision Maker Media is accepting applications with up to \$25,000.00 in funding support from Vision Maker Media for existing Native American youth programs. Each applicant must carry in their budget matching funds equal to or above the amount being applied for from Vision Maker Media. These matching funds can be monetary or non-monetary donations in-kind, but a dollar amount must be assigned and reflected in the submitted budget proposal. Vision Maker Media will review each applicant's budget and determine what amount of support we will provide. Included in this cost is Vision Maker Media's support of a media mentor from our talent pool of Native American public media producers located, as best as possible, within the vicinity of the partner's geographic location/region.

ELIGIBILITY

- Eligible communities or organizations must have a sustainable youth program of 2+ years.
- All completed projects should be in an exhibitable digital format and archived in the highest quality available to the original medium with little to no media or file compression.
- Eligible communities or organizations must reside in the U.S.
- Eligible communities or organizations should meet Vision Maker Media's mission of empowering and engaging Native people to share stories.

NOT ELIGIBLE

- Communities or organizations with a youth program of less than 3 years.
- Industrial or promotional films and videos.
- Student productions of any sort, such as thesis films.
- Communities or organizations that reside outside of the United States.

SELECTION PROCESS

Vision Maker Media convenes a panel of Public Media professionals, independent filmmakers, educators, and Native American story content experts to evaluate proposals. Panels will consider: the existing youth program's infrastructure and resources, how long the program has been active, the number of youths already engaged as well as the potential additional reach of the proposed program to serve Native youth. Particular attention will be given to the quality and scope of existing programming and the experience and stability of the program leadership. Following in-depth evaluation and discussion, the panel recommends projects for Vision Maker Media to support. Recommendations are subject to approval by the Vision Maker Media Board of Directors.

CONTRACT TERMS

- VMM will work to provide a youth media mentor for the program. If there are mentors that the organization would like to be considered in lieu of VMM providing one, they will be considered for support on a case-by-case basis through an application process and a background check.
- A copy of the organization's W-9 and mentor W-9.
- Prior to the start date, the organization will issue a pre-survey to the youth participating in the program (VMM will provide a link). At the end of the program the organization will issue a post-survey to the to gauge the effectiveness of the project.
- Mentorship term is for the duration of the program. The mentor and organization will develop the curriculum timeline, outlining goals and skill building objectives.

- Upon completion of the Native Youth Media Project both mentor and organization will submit a short narrative progress report to VMM and/or VMM may also facilitate this report via conversation with the mentor and organization. Vision Maker Media reserves the right and sole discretion to conduct periodic check-ins with the mentor, organization, or both at any given time for any reason. These check-ins may be conducted remotely or through site visits.
- Insurance: evidence of adequate General Liability insurance.
- Publicity Materials: for the purpose of promotion and fundraising for the Native Youth Media Project, the following media assets are encouraged to be collected during the length of the program: Head shots of participants (release forms for youth to be provided by VMM), Head shot of mentor, photographs of entire group, BTS stills and/or video during the program, suitable and cleared for print and web publicity.
- Final report & session log... Mentor and organization are required to maintain a session log sheet of all activities and meetings. At the end of the project, VMM will provide a final report form for both mentor and organization to summarize the effectiveness of the program, and suggestions to elevate the project.

ABOUT VISION MAKER MEDIA

Vision Maker Media (VMM) is the premier source of public media by and about Native Americans since 1976. Our mission is empowering and engaging Native people to share stories. We envision a world changed and healed by understanding Native stories and the public conversations they generate. We work with VMM funded producers to develop, produce and distribute programs for all public media. VMM supports training to increase the number of American Indians and Alaska Natives producing public broadcasting programs. A key strategy for this work is in partnerships with Tribal nations, Indian organizations and Native communities.

Vision Maker Media is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) funded in part by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), For more information visit visionmakermedia.org.

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