

RICHARD K. WONG FILM FUND GUIDELINES

Objectives

Vancouver Asian Film Festival (“**VAFF**”) and Richard K. Wong established the Richard Wong Film Fund (the “**RWFF**” or the “**Fund**”) to assist talented Asian Canadian filmmakers and TV producers produce creative projects that raise the profile of Asians in Canada.

The RWFF was established to address the challenges faced by Asian Canadians in the film industry and was made possible by Richard K. Wong’s generous contribution of \$12,500 in 2021. VAFF aims to secure further donors and sponsors to increase the amount available under the Fund.

To provide Asian Canadian filmmakers the opportunity to complete their works, the RWFF may finance original, high-quality projects (collectively or individually, the “**Project**”) that satisfy the criteria of the Fund, including those set out below, as may be amended or otherwise determined by VAFF at its sole discretion. VAFF’s hope is that the Project will further establish Asian Canadians as talented and notable filmmakers and actors.

Project applications (“**Applications**”) submitted by **May 1, 2021 (11:59 pm)** will be evaluated by VAFF or its representatives, and the owner of the selected Project(s) (the “**Owner**”) will enter into an agreement (the “**Agreement**”) with VAFF with respect to the Project. The Agreement will set out terms relating to an amount up to \$12,500 to be received by the Owner(s), including the timeline in which that amount will be given to the Owner(s) for the Project.

Eligibility

The following criteria apply to all Applications and will be subject to the terms of the Agreement.

1. Requirements

- a. Applications must be submitted before the above deadline and may be submitted by Canadian independent producers who are individuals or co-ventures or may be submitted by corporations or other entities controlled by the Owner.
- b. Projects under the Applications must not have been produced in whole or in part before the Agreement is entered into.
- c. The ideal applicant is a beginner to intermediate-level filmmaker.
- d. The Project should be able to be completed, script to delivery, in approximately [2] months from the date on which the Agreement is entered into, however longer delivery dates may be considered.

2. Ownership & Rights

- a. The beneficial ownership of the Project will be retained by a Canadian resident.
- b. The Owner agrees to:
 - i. Give VAFF the exclusive license to first screen the completed Project (the “Film”) and a non-exclusive and royalty-free right to further screen the Film for a period of two years.
 - ii. Assign film credits to Richard K. Wong, Grace Wong and VAFF as Executive Producers.
 - iii. Provide a testimonial for VAFF and the RWFF supporting the Fund.

3. Film Criteria

For the purposes of the RWFF, the Project can take form as a feature-length film, short-film, or a documentary that satisfies the following criteria:

- a. Showcases a story where the protagonist is Asian Canadian.
- b. Leading characters must be 50% or more Asian Canadians.
- c. Above-the-line personnel must be 50% or more Asian Canadian.
- d. Above-the-line personnel must be 50% female.
- e. Runs at least 30 minutes and, at maximum, (short length or feature-length).
- f. Does not require substantial time in preparation, production and post-production.
- g. Has an original narrative and visual construction.
- h. Has enduring appeal, and therefore a durable “shelf-life”.

Projects with any hate, political or religious propaganda will not be funded. Likewise, Projects with only one lead Asian character under circumstances where that character is the antagonist will not be funded.

4. Funding

- a. There is no budgetary limit in order to qualify for funding.
 - i. The other 50% can be self-funded and/or crowd-sourced.
 - ii. VAFF reserves the right to split the fund between multiple Projects.
 - iii. The fund can be used for development, production, and/or post-production.
 - iv. The fund can be used to top-up an existing budget.
- b. This is an annual fund, awarded once per year. VAFF reserves the right to end the program in future years if the funds are not replenished.

Application Procedure

1. Applicants must submit Applications via www.vaff.org/rwff
2. Applicants must submit the following documentation with their Applications:
 - a. Detailed industry-standard production budget and top sheet.

- b. Proposed shooting and production schedules.
- c. A detailed outline or treatment, including a description of the subject matter as well as the filmmaker's editorial and cinematic approach.
- d. Detailed one-page project synopsis, including names and ethnic backgrounds of leading characters.
- e. Resumes and background information on producer(s) and key creative, including screenwriter and director.
- f. Total number of pages? (no more than 10 page total)

Administration and Evaluation Process

1. Administration

The RWFF is administered by VAFF, a British Columbia Society, under the governance of an independent Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has sole and exclusive responsibility to make funding decisions and to supervise their implementation. The day-to-day operations of the RWFF are overseen by an Executive Director who reports to the Board of Directors.

2. Evaluation Process

- a. Deadlines are strictly enforced by RWFF.
- b. All interpretations of these Guidelines and decisions made by the Board of Directors are at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors. All decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

3. Factors for Success:

The following criteria will be considered when determining the potential success for a program:

- a. Producer track record
- b. International pre-sale/financing
- c. Creative team
- d. Film festival potential
- e. Audience appeal in Canada
- f. International audience appeal
- g. Distribution

4. Additional Fine Print:

- Current Vancouver Asian Film Festival Board and Executive members are not eligible to enter this competition.
- VAFF is under no obligation to award the fund if we don't find a suitable project, it will simply get rolled over to next year
- VAFF reserve the right to make minor adjustments to the rules and regulations without informing applicants
- Once submitted, the applicant cannot change anything. - submit cautiously.
- VAFF is under no obligation to provide feedback for not being selected for funding.



Delivery Specification

Min 1920x1080p 24fps.

Subtitles required for any in language, other than English is required.

192kps audio.

Within broadcast colours.

For additional information, please go to: <https://vaff.org/rwff/> or email rwff@vaff.org.