



## ARE YOU A MOANA PASIFIKA WOMAN WITH A STORY TO TELL FOR THE SCREEN?

We know you are out there and have wonderful stories to bring to life on screen, yet your voices are rarely heard. It is time to correct this imbalance and with the drive of Marina Alofagia McCartney and funding from Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga New Zealand Film Commission's Screen Sector Capability Fund, WIFT NZ and PISA have combined forces to help your voices be seen and heard.

This 15-week programme is designed for female, female-identifying or non-binary people of all ages and experience who identify as Pasifika and want to write long-form stories for the screen. Whether you have a short story, a short film, a novel, a play, or a great idea, if you are committed to, or tracking towards, making your first feature, this comprehensive course will give you the skills you require to competitively apply for script development funding. An important component of the programme will be integrating Moana Pasifika values of collectivism, reciprocity, respect, family and spirituality to nurture a culturally safe space to develop the scriptwriting skills which can be transferred to existing or future feature film projects.

We will support you through the story development process that leads to delivery of a synopsis, a treatment, and potentially a script. You will learn about the developmental process while being empowered in a Moana Pasifika creative community.

The **Moana Pasifika Women Screenwriters Programme** is an initiative of Marina Alofagia McCartney and will be developed and presented by highly experienced screen practitioners Nicole Dade and Karin Williams, with input from Dr Shuchi Kothari and selected mentors.

**Nicole Dade** is a screenwriter and story developer. Known for her genre knowledge and her ability to get to the heart of a story, Nicole is a well-respected, international story consultant, story producer and script editor across TV, film and online scripted content. As a writer Nicole is creating and writing a number of TV series and feature films.

Nicole was a development executive at Screen Australia where she worked with many of Australia's finest filmmakers and she managed the funding and development of many feature films, TV drama and online series.

Nicole's most recent credit is Associate Producer and Script Editor for Leah Purcell's debut film, *The Drovers Wife The Legend of Molly Johnson*.

Nicole's website: Dept. of Stories ([deptofstories.com](http://deptofstories.com))

**Karin Williams** is a descendant of British settlers in Aotearoa and Polynesian ancestors from the island of Aitutaki. She began her career as a reporter at the Cook Islands News in Rarotonga, before going on to work for broadcast networks in New Zealand and the USA. She founded Multinesia Productions to support and promote global indigenous storytelling. Credits include *Teine Sā*, a Pacific horror/anthology series for Sky NZ Originals, and the pan-Polynesian sketch comedy series, *SIS*, currently in post-production for Sky and Comedy Central. Karin served as a Development Executive at the NZ Film Commission and is an assessor for funding agencies including the NZFC, Creative NZ, Script to Screen and Pacific Islanders in Communications (PIC). She serves on the Executive Board of the Screen Production and Development Association (SPADA).

Karin's website: <https://www.multinesia.com/>

### APPLICATIONS:

From an open call for applicants to Moana Pasifika women storytellers, 6 - 8 people will be selected to participate in this programme.

### Necessary Details:

This is a 15-week course with a mix of online and face-to-face workshops. Between each of the intensives you will be writing, with online contact and mentoring.

### Dates:

Phase 1 intensive: 13 - 15 May 2022, 10AM - 4PM daily  
Phase 2 intensive: 10 - 12 June 2022, 10AM - 4PM daily  
Phase 3 intensive: 15 - 17 July 2022, 10AM - 4PM daily  
Introductions to producers: 12 August 2022

The doors will open at 9am each day and close at 6pm so attendees can arrive early for tea and coffee and stay on afterwards for quiet writing time. WIFT will be able to provide writing space throughout the 15 weeks should you need it.

### Venue:

CLICK Studios, 145 Carrington Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland

**FEE:** There is no fee to attend. This programme is fully funded by the NZ Film Commission.

**Note:** Travel assistance will be available for all participants, as will a copy of Final Draft if needed. There is also a budget for childcare allowance.

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:**

Friday 26 February 2022

To apply please email:

- a single page with your best pitch outlining why you should be included in this course,
- a single page about your story (150 words) and why you want to tell this story (100 words),
- writing sample in any format – maximum 1,000 words
- together with a copy of your current C.V.

**You may also submit your application by video link – maximum of 4 minutes, but please also include a writing sample – maximum 1,000 words.**

Please email your application to [office@wiftnz.org.nz](mailto:office@wiftnz.org.nz)

Successful applicants will be advised by Friday 18 March 2022.

*This **Moana Pasifika Writers Programme** received funding from Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga New Zealand Film Commission's Screen Sector Capability Fund.*

*The fund supports the New Zealand screen sector to develop the business and technical capability to meet the challenges of a COVID-19 and post COVID-19 environment and is part of the New Zealand Government's Screen Sector Recovery package.*

## PROGRAMME OUTLINE / CONTENT

The programme will be delivered over 15 weeks with 3 x 3-day intensives and a weekly schedule for development and writing.

Story and the Storyteller

- What's a story anyway?
- Why do we tell our stories?
- Why do screen stories matter?
- You as the storyteller
- The storyteller and the audience

Elements of Story

- Story world
- Theme
- Systems
- Mythology
- Expressions of story: tone, mood, genre

- Allegory, metaphor
- Structure
- Character
- Protagonist/s
- Antagonistic force/force of change

Selling Your Story and You as Storyteller

- Types of audience
- Selling/pitch Documents
- Creator/Vision/Writer/Director statements
- Logline and synopses
- Video pitches
- Development plan

## PROGRAMME FORMAT

### PHASE 1

**Week 1:** 3-day workshop and talanoa (including lesson material and exercises)

- Story and the Storyteller
- Elements of Story
- Screen Story Documents

**Week 2 to 4:** Development, writing time, mentor zono

**Outcomes:** Premise statement, logline, 1 paragraph synopsis, first draft 5-15 page story outline

### PHASE 2

**Week 5:** 3-day workshop, talanoa, reciprocal feedback (including lesson material)

- Elements of Story pt. 2
- Selling your Story and you as Storyteller
- Building a Screenplay

**Week 6 to 9:** Development, writing time, mentor zono

**Outcomes:** Revised 5–15 page story outline, vision statement

### PHASE 3

**Week 10:** 3-day workshop, talanoa, reciprocal feedback (including lesson material)

**Week 11 to 13:** Development, writing time, mentor zono

**Outcomes:** Deliver 10 pages script

### PHASE 4

**Week 14:** Talanoa, reciprocal feedback

**Week 15:** Introductions to producers (facilitated by WIFT & PISA)