

**Video Pool Media Arts Centre
Aboriginal Media Art Initiative (AMAI) 2012**

Submission deadline – Wednesday February 15th, 2012

What is Video Pool?

Video Pool is a nonprofit Artist-Run Centre dedicated to independent video, audio and computer integrated multimedia production. Members of the centre have access to workshops, funding, distribution, and equipment for the creation of their works.

What is the Aboriginal Media Art Initiative?

The Aboriginal Media Art Initiative is an immersive program designed by Video Pool to assist aboriginal artists, either emerging or already practicing in any discipline, with the creation of a short video or a media art piece.

This is a two-level program*:

Level One: Remote community residents, who will learn to make their first video.

Level Two: Winnipeg residents, who will create a media art piece.

* Each individual will only be participating at one level during the residency. Apply accordingly.

The program includes a one-month residency in Winnipeg, sponsored entirely by Video Pool, covering travel and accommodations, as well as providing a per diem and honorarium. The residency is split into two parts, separated by a mid-program trip home. It's expected that by the end of the program, the participants will have created a short video or media art piece. Each piece will be exhibited at a chosen venue in Winnipeg and then added to the Video Pool archive.

With a new skill set, the artists might choose to move into a related media industry or continue to create their own works from their home communities. Video Pool will foster the relationship established with the two artists and submit participant's pieces to festivals and galleries to represent their work through exhibitions and distribution. Previous participants have had their works screened at such festivals as:

ImagineNATIVE Film Festival, Toronto
Terres en Vues First People's Festival, Montreal
American Indian Film Festival, San Francisco
Gimme Some Truth Documentary Festival, Winnipeg
Dawson City International Short Film Festival, Dawson City
Real North Film Festival, Thompson
Fargo Film Festival, North Dakota

Successful recipients will receive:

- an honorarium of \$1,000
- all expenses paid travel to Winnipeg and accommodations
- mid-program travel back to your home community
- allowance for subsistence for the 30-day program
- \$300 for tape stock and other materials costs
- complete equipment resources for the creation of the project (see Video Pool's equipment list for details >> www.videopool.org)
- one on one mentorship and extensive training for the duration of the program

Expectations of the recipients:

It is expected that recipients can work independently, as well as in a one on one mentor setting towards the creation of a personal project.

Recipients will be expected to attend a variety of community-based art functions (laid-out in an itinerary provided upon arrival) during their stay in Winnipeg. There will still be plenty of personal time afforded each recipient.

Recipients will have to attend all meetings and workshops scheduled for them by Video Pool. Failure to attend a scheduled meeting or event for reasons other than medical or personal could jeopardize the recipient's standing in the program (at Video Pool's discretion).

Failure on the part of the recipient to demonstrate interest in their project, or in participating in the program, could jeopardize the recipient's standing in the program (at Video Pool's discretion).

Submission deadline – Wednesday February 15th, 2012

Selection and notification - Monday February 20th, 2012

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Travel Day – Sunday, March 11th, 2012

Remote community participants will travel to Winnipeg and check into accommodation (TBD).

Part One – Monday, March 12th – Saturday, March 17th, 2012

This period is spent getting acquainted with the mentors and with their project in general. Participants will start to think about their own projects while taking workshops in areas such as digital camera work, basic electronics, recording sound, and basic editing. It's expected that each participant will have started some portion of their project before they leave for the mid-program trip home.

Part Two - Sunday, March 18th – Sunday March 25th, 2012

This week is a mid-program trip home. Participants are expected to further refine their project idea. During this period the participants can, if they wish, bring some equipment back to their home communities to gather audio or video footage for use in their project.

Part Three – Monday, March 26th – Saturday, April 14th, 2012

The second portion of the program will see the participants complete their short videos or media art project. More workshops on editing and post-production will be augmented with the support of each participant's mentor, who will guide them through completing their works. A final event will be held at the end of the program to showcase the finished projects.

Travel Day – Sunday, April 15th, 2012

FAQ'S

How do I know if I'm eligible?

You need to be at least 18 years of age by the deadline date. Also, you need to be of aboriginal heritage.

For remote community program: You must be living in a community either in the Interlake, central, or northern Manitoba. If you live in Winnipeg, Thompson, Brandon or Portage La Prairie, you are not eligible.

For Winnipeg residents program: You must reside within the perimeter, or just outside of the perimeter of Winnipeg. Travel costs will not be covered for local participants, as the honorarium and per diem are expected to cover these expenses.

What are my chances of being chosen?

At least two participants will be selected. The more you tell us about yourself and what you hope to get out of the program, the better your chances are. It would also benefit you to have a general idea of a short video or media art piece that you would like to create during the program.

How much experience do I have to have with making videos?

Recipients should have some knowledge of technology, but the course is designed to provide training in video production and media art. If you've made a few videos in your community already, that is okay. Video Pool won't accept applications from professional media artists (with an extensive history of public exhibitions of their video work).

Note for the **remote community participant program**: you do not need to have any experience in film/video.

Note for the **Winnipeg participant program**: you are recommended to have some experience in film/video, as this program is geared toward advancing ideas and technical proficiency within media art.

What if I can't go to Winnipeg on these dates?

You should make sure that you are able to attend the residency portion of the scholarship within the timeframe that is provided. Video Pool will try to be as flexible as possible with the arrival and departure dates; however, if you can't attend the weeks of the program then you should not apply.

If I receive the scholarship, how do I get to Winnipeg and where do I stay?

Video Pool will cover the travel and hotel expenses for you. The method of travel may vary depending on where you live, but Video Pool is committed to bringing the participants by plane if necessary. Participants will be residing in the downtown, within walking distance from Video Pool. A suite with a kitchenette will be provided.

What do I do for food or money?

Video Pool will provide a per diem to help cover the costs of food and miscellaneous expenses incurred while each participant resides in Winnipeg. Also, Video Pool is paying each participant an honorarium of \$1,000, separated into two payments during the stay.

Who will my mentor be?

Video Pool will select mentors for participants based on their experience level and project requirements. Mentors will be professional artists currently living in Winnipeg. Mentors will meet with their mentee (the artist) for a total of 48 hours throughout the 4-week period in Winnipeg.

What sort of project will I be making in Winnipeg?

For remote community participants: this program is designed to develop skills in all aspects of digital video. The videos, with assistance from a mentor, will be worked on while you are residing in Winnipeg. Also, Video Pool is committed to sending each participant home for a visit in the middle of the program. This way, participants can do some work on their projects at home (like shoot footage, etc.) By the end of the program, you will have made a short video in your genre of choice: documentary, experimental, narrative story, etc.

For Winnipeg participants: this program is designed to further develop the skills you already possess. By the end of the program, with the help of your mentor, you will have created a work of media art in the form of your choice: installation, interactive web, video performance, etc.

What kinds of workshops will I be taking?

Depending on your focus within the program, workshops in shooting digital video, editing, lighting, sound design, video installation, storyboarding, script writing, planning and organization, distribution, marketing and much more will be facilitated. Participants will also have the ability to set up workshops that suit their own requirements; for example, if you're making a narrative (story) you might want workshops in how to direct actors and crew.

Any further questions can be directed to Kevin Lee Burton, Video Pool's Outreach Coordinator.

Kevin Lee Burton
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