



OPEN CALL!

2023 EWA NETWORK MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR WOMEN PRODUCERS

The EWA Network's Producers' Mentoring Scheme is a career enhancement programme for female independent audiovisual producers. Launched for the first time in 2018, it has enabled participants to upgrade their core professional skills in areas such as financing, negotiating, management and business development. It is aimed at female producers established in Europe, with at least five years of proven experience as in audiovisual production and who are motivated to take the next step in their producing careers, enhance their skills and knowledge, and cement their position in the European screen industries

The mentoring scheme is an exclusive programme specifically aimed at women producers who have already experience at national level and wish to evolve further to a European/ international dimension.

Apply by SEPTEMBER 3rd

WHY MENTORING?

Mentoring has revealed itself to be one of the strongest tools to help women grow within closed business environments. Women do not need « more » training, on average they are already well trained, and often better than male producers, but in industries where networking and personal links are very strong, mentoring is an established tool to enhance women's social capital and improve their business skills to achieve/ gain better access to the market.

WHAT IS MENTORING?

Business mentoring is a one-to-one relationship focused on the needs of the mentee to develop/reinforce specific competences, skills, and a problem-solving attitude, with a capable mentor available, willing and able to provide advice on those issues. The experience and competences of the mentor is carefully matched to the specific needs of the mentee. Mentoring is not training. Training schemes have general objectives, well-structured activities and group dynamics. Mentoring is a tailor-made activity based on the relationship between mentor and mentee. It is a space where the mentee can ask questions that would be difficult to raise in a training group.

EWA's Producers' Mentoring Scheme allows mentees to upgrade the core skills and competences. Mentors do not deliver solutions to mentee:, the purpose of mentoring is not to focus on a specific project/activity, but to support the mentee in her professional growth and to take her next career step to a direction she identifies herself during the mentoring process.

WHO IS INVOLVED IN THE PROGRAMME?

EWA Network draws on a pool of [experienced women producers](#) who have a successful track record: winning top international prizes and leading by example with the best practices of European film and TV production. EWA Network mentors have a successful business background and this gives them an invaluable understanding of what it is to succeed as a producer.

In addition, several consultants will bring their expertise to the online seminars and to the on-site meetings that kick off and close the programme

HOW DOES THE PROGRAMME WORK?

The 2023-2024 programme will run for 8 months and will consist of two on-site group meetings in the context of European Film markets, in addition to the monthly meetings with the assigned mentor. Moreover, there will be two additional seminars with experts, follow-up online group meetings and two unofficial mid-term gatherings in Berlin and Cannes.

The cycle will start with a three day introductory meeting of mentees and mentors in Thessaloniki, Greece, hosted by the AGORA co-production market in the Thessaloniki International Film Festival in November 2023. The meeting includes a masterclass on business development, which will be led by y a renowned expert attached to the programme. The group will also have time to explore the networking possibilities in the market.

A second group gathering will close the cycle in Cluj, Romania, hosted by Transilvania International Film Festival in June 2024. This gathering will also take place over three days.

Throughout the year, further informal gatherings will be organized for participants attending the Cannes Film Festival and the Berlinale to multiply the networking possibilities.

In addition, participants - mentees and mentors - will have two mandatory online meetings. The purpose of these sessions is to link updated know-how from the expert sessions to the specific exchanges between mentors and mentees, and to strengthen the capacity of all participants to adapt to new business practices, such as alternative financing models, digital distribution strategies and issues related to green shooting..

Furthermore, throughout the mentoring program, the EWA team will find other opportunities for the mentees to participate in other EWA programming and networking in 2024.

Mentors and mentees will work online at their own pace. Each mentor will be available for four hours per month. Halfway through the programme, we will ask for feedback to make sure the match is working.

A maximum number of 6 mentees will be selected in this edition.

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Two on-site meetings as described previously. EWA Network, in partnership with the hosting markets will cover the accommodation, the accreditation to these two markets and meals during both on-site meetings.*
- The programme facilitates the creation of a strong network among participants and their connection to the international audiovisual industry at large: the mentees integrate a growing community of professionals who share their experience and provide each other with mutual support, contributing to greater equality of gender in the audiovisual industry, and higher expertise of female producers
- A strategic growth of the participant's skills as a producer and most likely a strategic and business development of their company.
- Online seminars with audiovisual experts to advise in these times of transformation of the audiovisual industry
- Informal gatherings in Berlinale and Cannes. Participants can also take part in the side activities that are organized by EWA Network, such as round tables, lectures and exchanges around shifts in the industry and the challenges faced by female professionals
- Additional online programming in EWA Network.

(*) unless COVID emergency measures might make traveling impossible. In that case, we will offer an alternative solution to physical travel.

WHO CAN APPLY?

- Women producers established in Europe (larger Europe, 46 Council of Europe countries) having a proven experience of at least five years in film production department and having produced

(delegate and executive producer are accepted) at least one long feature film (fiction or documentary) already distributed (theatrically, TV, or wide festival trajectory)

- Who are motivated to grow professionally, acquire new skills (financial, managerial, negotiation) and evolve in a European environment and/or have a business growing plan
- Who are members of EWA Network and fluent in English

HOW TO APPLY

To apply to EWA's mentoring scheme for emerging producers, please send us following documents through [the following APPLICATION FORM](#):

- Bio and CV in English
- Copy of a valid ID/Passport
- Proof of your experience as a producer. Provide evidence of the release of at least one feature film (fiction or documentary) already distributed (theatrically, TV, or wide festival trajectory) with links to films or shows.
- Motivation video pitch of maximum 3 minutes explaining why you wish to take part in the mentoring programme and what you expect to gain, which skills and competences you wish to develop/improve. Why is this programme important for you and your career at this moment in time?
- Description of the projects on which you are currently working (maximum 3.000 characters);
- Describe Where you see yourself/ your company in the next 5 years.

SELECTION CRITERIA AND FEES

The fee to enroll in the 5th EWA Network's Mentoring Programme for Emerging Women Producers is €1000.

We strongly advise the applicants to check if they are eligible for scholarships in their countries .

The mentees will be selected on the basis of their motivation and professional growth potential, with particular interest in including filmmakers from countries with limited access to this kind of scheme.

After the selection committee has revised the applications, selected candidates will have an in-depth interview and the accepted applicants will be notified by mid September. The match-making with the senior producers will be made after the mentee-to-be has confirmed her enrollment in the programme.

Should you have any questions, do not hesitate to write to us at contact@ewawomen.com

Please note that due to the COVID-19 restrictions, the programme might be changed by force majeure to adapt its agenda. The on-site gatherings might be partially or completely held online, in case of emergency and so may be the group meetings.