**Chicken & Egg Pictures**

**Open Call for 2024 (Egg)celerator Lab - Application Questions**

**GUIDELINES AND INFORMATION**

**General**

* **Application Deadline: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 12:00pm (noon) ET**
* Applicants will be notified by November 2023.
* Attendance at program retreats is required and mandatory. As you apply, please take into consideration that we will be meeting two times during the year, possible dates including: five (5) days in March (in the US) and five (5) days in July (in the US).Chicken & Egg Pictures will cover lodging and travel costs for each director. Exact dates TBC when results are communicated.
* **We will contact you with any questions or requests for updates to your application; please do not contact us or send unsolicited updates.**
* If you have an application emergency or urgent issue, you may email egglab\_opencall@chickeneggpics.org; please allow a week prior to the application deadline for us to respond to your issue; inquiries received less than a week before the deadline might not be answered.
* Before starting your application, please be sure to read through our website’s programs page for everything that you need to know about our [Criteria & Guidelines, Application Checklist, and FAQ](https://chickeneggpics.org/programs/#eggcelerator-lab).

**Technical Notes**

* We recommend that you complete your application in this Word document first, and then add the information to the online application platform. Please be aware of the length requirement of each question. We encourage you to fill in your application using the following settings: Arial, size 11, single line spacing option in Microsoft Word.
* Note on our character count requirements. They are based on the guidance provided via the [Non-fiction Core Application 2.0 Proposal Checklist](https://www.documentary.org/sites/default/files/images/core_app_proposal_checklist_english_v.2022.pdf) where 100 words = 650 characters.
	+ ***Don’t feel compelled to reach the maximum character count. We encourage you to be concise!***
	+ **All maximum character counts include spaces. If you cannot copy the text you prepared in the separate Word document to the online platform, it means that you have exceeded the character counts. Please adjust your text to fit the character count.**
* To navigate through the application, please click the blue tabs at the top of each page. ***Do not*** click the "Back" button in your browser, as this will kick you out of the application.
* Be sure to click the pink “Save” button at the bottom of each page before moving to the next page. **Changes are not automatically saved**. You will be able to save, make changes, and return to the application until you click “Submit Application” on the last tab. Once you click “Submit Application” you will no longer be able to make changes to your application.
* Please only have the application open in one window, tab, or computer at a time. Applications open in multiple windows, tabs, or computers may overwrite text written in another. In other words, all your work may be lost.
* All fields are required, unless otherwise noted. Any blanks in required fields will be noted with a red error message at the top of the page. You will not be able to submit your application without completing the required fields.
* Your application is not complete until you’ve paid the application fee and clicked “Submit Application”.

**Application Assistance**

* To request technical assistance with navigating the application platform and/or submission process, please email egglab\_opencall@chickeneggpics.org.
* We ask that requests for accommodation be made as soon as possible, and no later than May 24, 2023, to allow adequate time for staff to support the applicant before the deadline.

**Additional Notes**

* You do not need a fiscal sponsor in order to apply for the (Egg)celerator Lab. However, if you are accepted, you must have a US fiscal sponsor, or be a 501(c)(3), in order to receive the funds. See our guidelines for more information on fiscal sponsors.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project title**

Please do not include quotation marks around your title.

**Logline**

Please provide a brief summary of the project that captures the most important elements — setting, participants, central conflict, or concerns.

*325 characters max*

**Story or Concept Summary**

Give an overview of your story, introducing the main participants and potential plot points. Describe the anticipated story and narrative trajectory or potential character arcs for your film. If your project is non-narrative or not character-driven, what is your project’s concept, and how is it constructed? Give an overview of the subject matter and your primary questions and ideas to be explored. Please be clear about the elements of your film that remain unknown or unclear and highlight the questions that may steer the direction of your film.

*6500 characters max*

 **Connection and Access**

What is your connection and access to the story (i.e., participants, community, location, archives etc.)? Why are you the best filmmaker(s) to tell this story?

*1625 characters max*

**Accountability**

If relevant, describe your relationship with the participants or community being filmed? What are

your processes of accountability, including consent, transparency, feedback, and any other steps being taken to ensure the participants or communities that are featured in your film have agency in the filmmaking process, from pre-production through distribution?

*1625 characters max*

**Power and Positionality**

What is your power and positionality in relation to the story and/or those featured in it? What

unique lens, perspective, insights, or bias do you bring to the story – i.e., your values, interests,

underlying assumptions, worldview, or motivations?

*1625 characters max*

**Creative Control**
Who has creative control and, if applicable, ownership of the project?

*325 characters max*

**Artistic Approach**Describe your creative vision for the finished project. What are the visual and audio elements that will bring your film to life? Explain your intended use of artistic devices or any particular creative approach that informs the storytelling (e.g., animations, re-creations, transitions). Up to *3250 characters max*

**Project Stage and Timeline**
Outline the projected production timeline from the project’s current state to the anticipated completion date. Your timeline should detail major project activities, production schedules, and anticipated post-production and release dates. If you have applied to this fund previously, please share how your project has progressed.

*3250 characters max*

*Note: Keep in mind that the program will take place from February to December 2024. If you are planning to have a rough cut by the end of this year or by the first quarter of 2024 then this program is not for you.*

**Forums and Markets**

List the forums and markets where you have participated with this project, even if there was no cash award.

**Geographic Region**

Please indicate the primary region where your film takes place.

**Subject Matter 1**

**Subject Matter 2**

**Subject Matter 3**

**Project's website** (optional)

**KEY CREATIVE PERSONNEL**

**Contact Information**

For co-directing teams, all directors must be listed as a contact. Please note that at least one director on the project must be a first- or second-time director. Please see our FAQ for further details on how we define experience level.

If you have a producer(s), please also add them as a contact. Please provide complete contact information including a valid email address, telephone number, and mailing address (in the country’s format). Please fill out the following information for the lead contact (you) using the edit button. Please press “Add Contact” for any additional points of contact you wish to list. Contact information should be valid until at least November 2023.

[note: please fill out these fields directly on the application]

**Bios of Key Creative Personnel**

Provide brief biographies for the director(s), and if attached, the producer(s), cinematographer, and/or editor. For each key creative team member, include information about relevant expertise and the individual’s role in the project. Bullet-list names and titles of any confirmed advisors who are attached. *Approximately 1300 characters/bio*

*The director, co-directors and producers should be added as Project Contacts via the Add Contact button.*

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Fundraising Strategy**

Describe the overall fundraising strategy for the film.

*1300 characters max*

**Funding to Date**

Provide a list of all sources and amounts raised to date. Distinguish between potential sources of funding and secured amounts. List the status of other sources of funding (planning to apply, application pending, funding committed, or funding received).

Example:

| **Source** | **Amount** | **Status** | **Percentage of Total Budget** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Foundation A | $x | Funding Received | % |
| Private Investment  | $x | Funding Received | % |
| Foundation  | $x | Application Pending | % |
| Broadcast License A | $x | Planning to Apply | % |
| Crowdfunding Campaign | $x | Funding Received | % |

**BUDGET**

**Total Budget**

Enter the amount in US dollars using just numerals. Include only costs up through completion.

**Comprehensive Line-Item Expense Budget**

Please a breakdown of your project's projected expenses, from development through release, in US dollars, including a budget total. Provide budget notes for any areas that may be viewed as out of the ordinary or require further explanation. Upload your current budget in the format you have. Note: there is no need to create a new one. If you don’t already have a budget and would like some guidance on how to create one, we recommend the 2019 revised [Introduction to Documentary Budgeting](https://www.documentary.org/feature/revised-introduction-documentary-budgeting) article.

[note: please upload the budget directly via the platform]

**WORK SAMPLES**

Before submitting work samples, please review the program[page](https://chickeneggpics.org/programs/#eggcelerator-lab) on our website for guidelines and requirements regarding current project and prior work samples.

**1. CURRENT PROJECT SAMPLE - Required**

The running time for your Current Project Sample should be no less than **7 minutes and not exceed 20 minutes**.

Additional guidelines:

* The total sample can include 2 or 3 scene selects or excerpts, or a combination of a trailer and a scene select(s). Make sure to separate them with title cards. If you are submitting a trailer, we strongly encourage you to also submit scene select(s) or excerpt(s) because while trailers can give us a good idea of your characters, story, and place, they often don’t let us appreciate your visual style, sense of rhythm, and how you work with your characters.
* We encourage applicants not to spend extra resources creating a sample for each individual fund. If your current sample is longer than the maximum length of 20 minutes, you can provide timecodes to the portion of the sample that you would like reviewers to watch.
* Please note that in our first round of review, reviewers are required to watch up to the first 10 minutes of the project sample. In this early round we consider that 10 minutes should be sufficient to get a sense of the project, the importance of the subject matter, and the talent of the filmmaker to move into the following round. Work samples will be viewed in full in subsequent rounds.

**URL**

Important note: Submit **one link only** in the text box. If you copy several links, the link to your sample will appear to be defective. We will not contact you to ask for a working link.

Please make your work sample downloadable. On the application, once you add a link and click Save, a “Test Live Link and Password” button will be generated to verify that your link is working. Review to ensure that the link and password work correctly before submitting your sample.

**Password**

If no password is required for your link, please write "N/A" in this field. We recommend you protect your materials with a password.

**Running time**

Please round to whole numbers, in minutes.

**Description**

Specify what type of sample or combination of samples you are submitting: trailer; scene select(s) or excerpt(s); character strand(s).

What should reviewers be looking for in your sample? Explain what is present and absent in the sample, and how it will differ as a finished film. Describe how it is representative of the intended story, style, subject, or other aspect of the project. Please provide reviewers with the time codes of the portions of the sample that best reflect your intended style and approach.

*1300 characters max*

**2. DIRECTOR’S PRIOR WORK SAMPLE - Optional for first-time directors / Mandatory for second-time directors**

Prior Work Sample must be documentary, hybrid of fiction and nonfiction, or other forms of nonfiction. Sample can be feature-length film or short format, including web series, animation, or experimental. Fiction work, music videos, commercial work, and PSAs are not accepted as a prior work sample. We value the creative value of this work but because of its nature it does not allow us to see your author’s voice and your vision as a documentary director.

**Optional for first-time directors:** May submit previously directed work that is not feature-length film but this **must still be** documentary, hybrid or other form of nonfiction, such as web series, animation or experimental. If none of this is available, you may submit a work sample from a separate project in which you held a prominent role in the production, such as producer, A.D., cinematographer or editor. If you are not the director, please specify your role in the creation of the completed work submitted.

**Note that samples of work directed by you are strongly preferred over samples of work where you held a prominent role but did not participate as director or co-director.**

**Mandatory for second-time directors:** Must submit a prior work sample of a completed feature-length film in which you participated as director or co-director.

Co-directing teams that consist of a first-time/second-time director and a veteran director must submit a prior work sample from the first-time/second-time director.

**Film Title**

**Director Name**

**Year Completed**

**URL**

Please make work samples downloadable, and double check that the link and password work correctly before submitting your sample. The link must be subtitled in English. *Once you Save the entry, click on the “Test Live Link and Password” button to verify that your link is working.*

**Password**

If no password is required for your link, please write "N/A" in this field.

**Running Time**

Please round to whole numbers, in minutes. There is no time limit for your Prior Work Sample. Please provide a link to the complete film.

**Description**

Describe the sample you are submitting for consideration, including its narrative, aesthetic, or communication intentions. Discuss the relevance of the work to the current project, if any. If the current project is a departure from the prior work, how will this film differ? If you wish the panel review a specific section of your prior work, note the start and end running times of a 10-minute section that you’d especially like to highlight. If the film was co-directed, specify the name of the co-director. If you are not the director, please specify your role in the completed work submitted. *1300 characters max*

**Festivals and Awards**

Describe any recognition that your film has received via festivals, awards, etc.

*650 characters max*

**SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS**

**How long have you known about (Egg)celerator Lab Open Call?**

Less than a year

1-3 years

3-6 years

**How did you hear about the (Egg)celerator Lab Open Call?**

*Dropdown menu:*

Referred by Chicken & Egg Pictures Team at a festival/forum;

Referred by Fellow Filmmaker/Peer;

Chicken & Egg Pictures Newsletter or Chicken & Egg Pictures Social Media;

Other Industry Newsletter or Social Media;

Other-->Please specify

**Please specify if anyone referred you to apply (optional)**

**Project Still**

Please upload a still image that is core to your film’s story line. (file name must end with .jpeg, .png, or .tiff). If possible, please crop to a 2:3 aspect ratio (vertical) and a size no larger than 1400 x 2100.