CINEKID DIRECTORS LAB 2027

Cinekid Directors LAB calendar outline:

- Entry form online: November 12, 2026
- Application deadline: January 11, 2026, 23:59 CET
- Selection results: Week commencing January 25, 2027
- Announcement: February 1, 2027
- Directors LAB 2027
    - Arrival: April 11 before 14:00, programme starts at 16:00 NL time.
    - Workshop days: April 11 – 15 2027
    - Departure: April 16 (any time of the day)

REGULATIONS

1. Cinekid Directors LAB is a workshop for directors of children's film or series projects in an advanced stage of development. It focuses on the final steps necessary prior to pre-production. The workshop takes place from 11-15 April 2027 in Amsterdam.
2. Cinekid Directors LAB is supported by the Creative Europe MEDIA Programme.
3. The final selection will consist of approximately 6 projects, up to three will be nominated by our partner institutes, the remaining will be selected through the Open Call.
4. Cinekid allocates a maximum of two scholarships that each cover 50% of the participation fee to participants from European Union countries with low support mechanisms, as indicated by Creative Europe. We encourage participants to apply for financial support with their national/regional funding bodies first. Which projects will receive a scholarship will also be announced in January.
5. Cinekid Directors LAB is open to projects from all over the world.
6. Submissions must be feature-length films or series and can either be fiction, documentary*, animation, or live-action projects for an audience of 3-14 years old and written from their perspective.
7. The main criteria for selection are the viability and quality of the plans and the demonstrable talent of the directors. Only projects that have a production company attached are eligible.
8. Projects that have participated in one of the previous editions of Cinekid Script LAB or the Junior Co-production Market have priority in the selection, but Cinekid Directors LAB is open to all projects that fit the criteria.
9. Cinekid strives to present a selection of projects that reflects on the current society that reflects in the story, cast and crew. Our priority is with original stories instead of (book) adaptations.
10. Projects can only be entered by submitting our digital Cinekid Directors LAB entry form at https://forms.cinekid.nl/
11. Only entry forms that have been submitted within the deadline will be considered for selection.

12. In the entry form, we require the following information in English:
    a. Logline (max. 50 words)
    b. Synopsis (max. 500 words)

c. Project status and history
d. Financing – including total budget, in place financing, and financing plan.
e. Latest or final version of the script.
f. Short description of the main characters and (confirmed) actors
g. Artistic statement/vision of the director
h. Motivational letter (addressing your interest in the programme and what you hope to gain by participating in Cinekid Directors LAB)
i. Director(s) / Director(s)'s statement (max. 500 words), biography and link(s) to previous work
j. Producer(s) / Producer(s)'s statement
k. Stage of development, language, length, target audience, genre, live action / animation, original story / adaptation / remake.
l. Statement A statement regarding how you intend to reduce the environmental impact of your project's development and production.
m. A reflection on how your project addresses diversity and inclusion, either in its story or through casting and crew choices.

13. Selection procedure
    a. If selected, you will receive an email in the week commencing January 25. In that email, we ask you to confirm your participation, and we will ask you to send us the following information for our press release **within 48 hours**.
        i. Original title of the project
        ii. English title of the project
        iii. Participating director(s)
        iv. Production company
        v. Production country

14. Selected for Cinekid Directors LAB:
    a. Cinekid Directors LAB can accept one director or a director duo per selected project.
    b. The participation fee for Cinekid Directors LAB is €3,500. If your project is selected through one of our partners, the participation fee will be covered by that partner.
    c. Cinekid covers 5 nights of hotel accommodation during the workshop, workshop package, coaching during the workshop week, breakfast, and lunches.
    d. Finished film projects that participated in the LAB should mention Cinekid Directors LAB and display the Cinekid logo in their credits. Preferably the following sentence should be mentioned in the credit list: "<film title> participated in Cinekid Directors LAB 2027." Please contact professionals@cinekid.nl to request the correct version of the logo.
15. The submission of an entry implies acceptance of these regulations.

* Documentary projects are welcome to apply, but please note that casting and working with actors forms a large part of the workshop curriculum, so please consider if that is relevant for your project.

For all further questions, kindly contact us at professionals@cinekid.nl