



Media Statement

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Career boost for Indigenous filmmakers

Indigenous Western Australians eager to pursue a career in the film and television industry will again have a life-changing opportunity through the Indigenous Media Internship initiative supported by ScreenWest and the Film & Television Institute (FTI).

ScreenWest Chief Executive Ian Booth said the initiative would provide two filmmakers with a place in FTI's 2009 Diploma in Screen and Media (Digital Production), plus a six week project-based work placement at FTI.

"This initiative provides Indigenous filmmakers with the practical skills to progress their career in the Western Australian screen industry," Mr Booth said.

"The first recipients of this Internship have already made a leap in their career and are currently working in the State as producer attachments on the feature film *Bran Nue Dae*."

2008 recipients, Taryne Laffar and Irma Woods, both found the FTI Media Internship to be a genuine pathway to further work.

"The Internship has been invaluable in furthering my education and understanding of the processes and roles in drama and documentary filmmaking," Ms Laffar said.

FTI Chief Executive, Graeme Sward said that developing opportunities for Indigenous filmmakers in WA was a priority for FTI.

"FTI is committed to developing real industry outcomes for Indigenous filmmakers and the Internship provides comprehensive training and networking opportunities for anyone wanting to work in film and television production," Mr Sward said.

The Internship will cover the FTI course costs and provide an income for the filmmakers during the work placement.

ScreenWest and FTI are inviting creative West Australian Indigenous people with some media experience to apply for the 2009 Indigenous Media Internship. The closing date for applications is 5:00pm Friday January 16, 2009. Further information is available from: <http://www.fti.asn.au>

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