

# 20th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival Early Career Critics Programme Open Call

## Application Guidance and Programme Overview

Berwick Film and Media Arts Festival's Early Career Critics is a chance to hone your critical and creative writing skills. With a focus on writing for and about artists moving image and new cinema, the programme will run from Thursday 27 - Sunday 30 March 2025. Since the success of our 2020 edition of the Early Career Critics, we are launching an Open Call to invite writing talent to the Festival for three workshops on interviewing, writing and pitching.

There are six places available, three of which will be offered with a bursary of £200 to support your accommodation and travel. Priority will be given to applicants based in the North and North East of England.

## What is involved?

- Complementary Festival Accreditation, offering you access to the whole Festival programme and more.
- An invitation to join the New Cinema Forum programme of events.
- Workshops on interviewing, pitching and writing critically.
- Plenty of time to watch films, attend events and participate in the Festival experience.
- Opportunities to meet with other professionals.

There are no required outcomes of the programme. If you choose to produce a piece of writing, we can offer editorial support and publish the piece on [bfmaf.org](http://bfmaf.org). You retain the rights to your work and you are encouraged to pitch pieces you write to other publications. We will also be able to facilitate interviews with artists over the course of the Festival.

## Eligibility Criteria

- Anyone who has four or fewer pieces of writing on film and visual arts published in print or online. This does not include self-publishing.
- Anyone who has published more than four pieces of writing but has not published anything in the last four years. This does not include self-publishing.
- Applicants must be based in the UK.
- Applicants must be 18+.

## Essential Requirements

- An interest in artist moving image, film and media arts.
- Some writing experience.
- Available to attend in person over the course of the entire programme: 28 - 30 March 2025.

## Dates and Deadlines

**Friday 31 January:** Open Call announced

**Monday 17 February:** Deadline for Applications

**Thursday 27 February:** Successful Applicants Informed

**Thursday 27 - Sunday 30 March:** 20th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

## To Apply

Please fill in this [Application Form](#), which asks for:

- Maximum 300 words on why this is an opportunity you are interested in, and why you think it will benefit your professional development.
- A link to a writing sample, published or unpublished (maximum 1000 words)
- Completed Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form

For more information, please visit: <https://bfmaf.org/opportunities/early-career-critics/>

If you have any questions, please email [info@bfmaf.org](mailto:info@bfmaf.org).