

NOUVELLES VAGUES – Fondation Barrière Grant for the Development of Feature Films

Rules and Regulations

The NOUVELLES VAGUES – Fondation Barrière Grant is a new initiative of the Biarritz Film Festival – NOUVELLES VAGUES that aims to support a fiction or documentary feature film project at a development stage.

Improving the script and the dialogue, working on the film budget, handling the location scouting, mapping out the VFX or the soundtrack, beginning the casting process – those are only a few of the key steps to consolidate the project in its financing stage.

The Grant is a three-step support process:

- The three finalist projects will benefit from personalized one-on-one consultation sessions. This mentorship is meant to identify and work on the projects' strengths and weaknesses, in order to consolidate the projects and prepare them for their public presentation during the Festival;
- The winning project will be awarded a €10,000 development grant;
- This project will benefit from the support of the Festival and the Barrière Foundation from the production stage to the finished film's promotion.

Eligibility Criteria

The Biarritz Film Festival – NOUVELLES VAGUES will open the call for projects on April 10, 2024. The call will end on April 30, 2024.

- All projects must be helmed by a **producer-director pair**. Only feature films are eligible, whether they are fiction film or documentary, live-action or animation, for theatrical release only.
- The project will have to voice out the challenges of today's and tomorrow's world, and **put forward narratives and perspectives rooted in the young generations' considerations**.
- The project's **main producer** must be **French**.
- Applicants must be able to show **they are able to see a professional project through to completion** by relying on previous experiences.
- Applicants must be **18 or older** on the date of application. Special attention will be paid to applicants coming from disadvantaged neighborhoods.
- The **project's connection with the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region** – through its topic or the filmmakers' origins – is not a prerequisite but will be valued.
- Films and documentaries made for TV, video games and sound creations, game & reality shows, corporate and promotional/commercial productions, event recordings and TV reports **are not eligible**.

Candidates must apply via the application form that will be available on the Festival's website (www.nouvelles-vagues.org) beginning on the first day of the call for projects. Applications received by any other means shall not be considered.

Applications should not be more than 20 pages (excluding the script or treatment) and written in 12-pt font. They must include, in the following order:

Mandatory elements:

- A short synopsis (3-5 lines at the most)
- A long synopsis (1 page at the most)
- An artistic note of intent from the director(s) including an informal presentation exposing the project's stakes and how it highlights the young generations' hopes and concerns (1 to 5 pages, video format accepted)
- A note specifying the project's status at the time of its submission, the provisional calendar and how the Grant will be used (2 pages at the most)
- Bio and filmographies of the writer(s), producer(s) and production company
- The script (preferably) or treatment

Optional elements:

- A moodboard or graphic references, casting ideas, etc.
- The financing plan
- How the project is connected to the Nouvelle-Aquitaine Region – if applicable

Elements must only be sent in French.

Only complete applications, meeting the aforementioned criteria and received between April 10 and April 30, 2024, at 11:59 pm will be considered by the committee.

Evaluation and Selection

After considering the various applications, the committee made up of film and television industry professionals will pick three finalist projects that will be eligible for the Grant.

Finalists will be contacted via email after the committee has deliberated and will have to reply within the next 10 days to confirm that they intend to participate in, and attend, the Festival. In case of no response, the Festival reserves the right to take the project out of the finalists' list and pick another to replace it.

The list of the three finalist projects will be announced in mid-May, 2024.

In the weeks leading up to the Festival, all three finalist projects will benefit from personalized one-on-one consultation sessions with various industry professionals; the content of those sessions shall depend on the projects' needs.

The project holders will be invited to pitch their project during the Festival. The pitch session will be held in public in front of a jury; the presentations must be given in French.

The Festival will cover the stay of two representatives per project: transportation, accommodation for two nights and two all-access accreditations.

Awarding the Grant

A jury made up of young people, aged 18-25, and of one key figure from the film industry, will deliberate following the pitch session. The discussion will be moderated by the Fondation Barrière representative who, as the jury's patron, will award the Grant in person when the winner is announced.

The jury will consider the projects based on the following criteria:

- The project's quality and creative originality
- How the project addresses the challenges of tomorrow and the considerations of today's youth
- The project's status and how the project holders plan on using the Grant
- The applicants' motivation

The financial support granted to the winning project amounts to €10,000 and will be paid in two installments:

- Two thirds paid to the production company when the agreement is signed
- One third paid upon presentation of the balance sheet showing how the grant was spent

Communication

All beneficiaries of the Grant agree to mention the Festival's support on all communication material and in the film's credits – they must include “with the support of the Biarritz Film Festival – NOUVELLES VAGUES in the framework of the NOUVELLES VAGUES – Fondation Barrière Grant” with the Festival's and the Barrière Foundation's logos.

Insurance and liabilities

Applicants agree to sign up for the insurance plan required for the completion of their project. The Festival reminds all beneficiaries that they are only covered by their own insurance, whether it be personal prejudices or their civil liability.