

Community Storyteller Initiative

As Los Angeles prepares to host its historic third Olympic & Paralympic Games in 2028, PBS SoCal is launching a three-year initiative to commission videos that celebrate the stories of our region and its people. Through the **Community Storyteller Initiative**, we're inviting local storytellers, documentarians and content creators to capture the spirit of Los Angeles as it transforms for the 2028 LOS ANGELES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES — its history, its neighborhoods, and its unseen legacies.

Selected videos will premiere on PBS SoCal's digital platforms.

RULES & REGULATIONS FOR SUBMISSION

The following is an explanation of the rules and regulations ("**Rules and Regulations**") governing the submission of a Project (as defined below) to PBS SoCal for consideration for the **Community Storyteller Initiative** ("**CSI**").

By agreeing to the Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy located at <https://www.pbssocal.org/community-storyteller-initiative>, the person submitting the Project (hereafter called the "**Applicant**") confirms that the Applicant has read and understood the submission Rules and Regulations as set forth below:

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I. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR SUBMISSION OF A FILM TO THE COMMUNITY STORYTELLER INITIATIVE:

- 1) The total running time for the proposed Project will be between 5 and 8 minutes.
- 2) Greenlighted Projects are intended to premiere on PBS SoCal's on-demand internet platforms and social media accounts.
- 3) Projects must comply with PBS Production Guidelines available at <https://www.pbs.org/about/producing-pbs/red-book/> ("**PBS Handbook**").
- 4) The Project must be wholly original to the Applicant and not created as a work-for-hire or within the scope of any employment or contractual obligation for any third-party which is not the Applicant. Applicant's contribution to the Project must be free of any claims by employers, contributors, or third parties.
- 5) **Projects must not have been previously produced and exhibited in any media worldwide.** Greenlit Projects will enter into good faith negotiations with PBS SoCal regarding a "production financing and distribution" agreement. Under such agreement, PBS SoCal will engage the successful Applicant on a work-made-for-hire basis, and all rights, title, and interest in the Project—including copyright—will vest in PBS SoCal. PBS SoCal will provide the full production budget **up to \$6,500**, including reasonable producer fees appearing in the greenlit budget for the Project, in exchange for all rights in the Project, in all media now known or hereafter devised, worldwide, in perpetuity.
- 6) It will be the responsibility of the greenlit Applicant to secure authorization and permission from the copyright owner(s) of any and all copyrighted and/or trademarked content or materials included within the submitted Project, but subject to PBS SoCal's right to review and approve such authorizations and permissions.
- 7) Applicant shall fully indemnify, defend, and hold harmless PBS SoCal, its representatives, affiliates, and sublicensees from any liability in connection with the review of Applicant's application and submission, and from any fees and expenses, including but not limited to reasonable attorneys' fees, that any of them may incur in connection therewith.

- 8) All Project proposals must be submitted to PBS SoCal via the application form, which is located at <https://airtable.com/app0haL4ZbDAyE3Gf/pagk4HwalVwlutCag/form> ("**Website**"). Entry must be made by Applicant only in the manner as set forth herein. All other submission methods are considered void. PBS SoCal in its sole determination reserves the right to disqualify any Project application which is not submitted using the Website. There is no fee charged to Applicants by PBS SoCal for the submission of an application. However, Applicants may incur costs preparing their submissions for compliance with the Rules & Regulations.
- 9) In the event that the Applicant remits an updated version of the Project to PBS SoCal after having submitted a previous version of the Project to PBS SoCal, PBS SoCal is under no obligation to view any or all of the updated version.
- 10) In order for any Project to be considered for entry into CSI, the Applicant must visit the Website and follow the links and instructions. For the purpose of clarity, an eligible Project entry **must** include
 - (a) a Project **proposal** (including **proposed title, venue** and/or **topic focus**, 500-word **project summary**, and **director's statement**),
 - (b) a Project **budget**,
 - (c) a description of the Applicant's **connection to the community or venue** in which the Project is set which must be demonstrated through residence in, family ties to, and/or long-term involvement or collaboration with a local organization in the community which is the subject of the Project (but consistent with PBS Editorial Standards & Practices and PBS Funding Standards & Practices set out in the PBS Handbook),
 - (d) **biographies** for Applicant's principal production personnel, and
 - (e) links to **previous work(s)**.

Applications submitted without these materials will not be considered by PBS SoCal for funding. PBS SoCal in its sole determination reserves the right to disqualify incomplete applications.

- 11) PBS SoCal will attempt to contact Applicants using the contact information provided in the application to notify the Applicant of the Project's acceptance status. PBS SoCal disavows any responsibility for, and will not be held responsible for, any failure to contact the Applicant using the contact information provided on the CSI profile. It is the sole responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that the contact information provided on the CSI profile is correct throughout the entirety of the Submission period. Applicants can update their contact information through the Website.
- 12) All information and materials (whether digital or tangible) submitted to PBS SoCal will not be returned and may be destroyed.

II. CSI PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

All Projects must meet the submission requirements and abide by all Rules and Regulations and be suitable for publication, which shall be determined by PBS SoCal in its sole discretion. Project submissions which violate or do not meet the requirements will be declined.

Any Applicant who submits a Project must be the original author and copyright owner of the submitted Project and that Applicant must have the sole authority and/or has obtained the legal authority from any necessary third party, to grant the permissions and rights granted herein, and no other permission from any other party must be required to grant such rights.

The submission period begins January 9, 2026 and ends March 1, 2026 ("**Submission Period**"). All Project submissions must be received prior to the expiration of the Submission Period. PBS SoCal's database clock shall be the official time keeping device for all entries submitted to PBS SoCal.

Applicants must be eighteen (18) years of age or older as of the date of submission.

Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or otherwise legally authorized to work in the United States and to perform services in the State of California.

There is no limit to the number of Projects an Applicant may submit. However, the production schedule may limit PBS SoCal to greenlighting a single Project by each successful Applicant.

ALL APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INTO CSI FOR CONSIDERATION MUST MEET ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND ABIDE BY ALL CSI RULES AND REGULATIONS.

All greenlit Applicants expressly consent to PBS SoCal's use of their name for the purpose of promoting the Project and CSI.

III. SUBMISSIONS AGREEMENT

In accordance with PBS SoCal's policy concerning submission of Project ideas and other material ("**Submission**"), Applicant (as defined above) agrees the Submission is submitted pursuant to the following terms and conditions:

- 1) PBS SoCal may review the Project or its features or components. If PBS SoCal upon its review uses the Project, and provided it is original, novel, valuable, and legally protectable, PBS SoCal agrees to compensate Applicant such sum of money as the parties may agree upon in writing. Unless and until a written agreement providing for the use of the submitted Project is executed, Applicant understands that: (a) Applicant will receive no compensation; (b) subject to Paragraph III.2 below, PBS SoCal will retain no right to use the Project or any of its features or components; and (c) PBS SoCal will have no obligation to Applicant in any respect whatsoever with regard to the submitted Project.
- 2) Applicant declares that all of the important features of the Project are disclosed in the Application and no other features have been disclosed to PBS SoCal by any other means. Applicant warrants that the Submission is original with and wholly owned by Applicant, that Applicant has full and unconditional right to disclose the Submission, that no one else has any right to it, and that Applicant has the right to enter into this Agreement. Applicant agrees to indemnify and hold PBS SoCal and its related, affiliated or parent company(s), designees, lawyers or assignees ("**Indemnitees**") harmless from and against any and all claims, loss or liability (including reasonable attorneys' fees) that may be asserted against PBS SoCal or any Indemnitee or incurred by same at any time in connection with the Project or any use thereof, and/or arising from any breach or alleged breach of any warranty, representation or covenant made by Applicant herein. Applicant believes the Project and its features to be unique and novel. However, Applicant recognizes that other persons, including PBS SoCal's own employees, may have submitted to PBS SoCal or to others or made public, or may in the future originate and submit or make public, similar or identical material, features or components that PBS SoCal may have the right to use, and Applicant understands that Applicant will not be entitled to any compensation because of PBS SoCal's use of other of materials similar or identical to the Project or the Submission.
- 3) Applicant acknowledges that PBS SoCal may disclose the Submission to its employees, and possibly others, to determine the Project's value to PBS SoCal. Applicant acknowledges that **no confidential relationship is entered into by reason of PBS SoCal's consideration of the submitted Project or by reason of any oral discussions between PBS SoCal and me.**
- 4) Any controversy arising out of, or in connection with, any alleged wrongful use of the Submission or a dispute with reference to this agreement, or its validity or effect, will be determined by binding arbitration in the City of Los Angeles in accordance with the commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association; provided, however, that said arbitration will be held before a single arbitrator well-acquainted with the entertainment industry in Los Angeles. Applicant agrees that any arbitration proceeding that Applicant may choose to bring against PBS SoCal will be initiated within six (6) months after the date of PBS SoCal's first use of any material that Applicant claims belongs to Applicant. Any award favorable to Applicant will be limited to a monetary award that will bear a reasonable relationship to monies normally paid by PBS SoCal to persons of comparable experience and stature in the entertainment industry for similar material or elements, and the fair market value therefor taking into consideration my experience and stature in the entertainment industry, measured as of the

date of this agreement. Each party waives any and all rights and benefits that it might otherwise have or be entitled to under the law to litigate any such dispute in court; it being the intention of the parties to arbitrate according to the provisions hereof, all such disputes. The arbitrator's decision will be controlled by all the terms of this agreement.

- 5) Applicant has retained a copy of the Submission and releases PBS SoCal from any and all liability arising out of the use or non-use of the Project or the disclosure to any third party and the loss of or damage to the Submission. Applicant agrees that PBS SoCal does not assume any obligation to return the Submission to Applicant.
- 6) This agreement, including the Submission, constitutes our entire understanding. Any modification or waiver must be in writing, signed by both of us. The invalidity of any provisions shall not affect the remaining provisions. This agreement applies equally to any other material that Applicant may submit to PBS SoCal, unless agreed in writing to the contrary at the time of the submission.
- 7) No termination of this agreement and no acts with respect to the Project (such as PBS SoCal's returning the Submission to Applicant) will be deemed to affect our respective rights under paragraphs 1,2, 3 and 4 (including those as to amount of compensation, agreement to arbitrate, and time for bringing any action) and all rights will survive any termination or acts.

PROFILE

PROJECT TITLE:

DESCRIBE CONTENT AND LENGTH OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED (e.g., outline of New Media project, 1-hour videotape; 100-page script; 4-page proposal; etc.):

PROJECT FORMAT (e.g., New Media project, half-hour daily children's series; one-hour documentary special; 6-hour drama series, etc.):

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PROJECT (Include identification of major characters where applicable):

REGISTRATION NUMBER (U.S. Copyright, Writers Guild Number, etc):

PRIOR HISTORY OF PROJECT (prior media uses, if any):

ITEMS SUBMITTED (To the extent not previously indicated, for example, supplemental documents, resumes, letters, etc.):

Project proposal (including title, venue/topic focus, 500-word summary, and director's statement)

Budget

Producer's connection to the community

Biographies for key persons

Previous works