

SCREENWRITERS WANTED!

WRITERS' ROOM EXPERIENCE: MURDER MYSTERY // COMEDIC SOAP OPERA

The German-American Institute Heidelberg is setting up a professional local Writers' Room project in July 2017. Therefore we are looking for two to three professional screenwriters who would like to participate in this experience.

The project will provide a rich learning experience for the authors that familiarizes them with the structures and working methods of professional Writers' Rooms in the U.S. and Scandinavia. Its aim is to develop a multi-layered concept for a TV show in the genre Murder Mystery // Comedic Soap Opera that explores how the opposing feelings on incoming refugees rip apart a small German town.

The group is to meet regularly in Heidelberg from July 2017 through April 2018 (with a break during December and January). The project is designed so that dedicated writers can participate while they work on other projects at the same time. The concept and bible of the show will be presented to the public in early May 2018.

Besides the writers, the team will consist of head-writer Alex David and a writers' assistant.

Working language is English.

PARTICIPANTS

The project is open to professional screenwriters and authors with familiarity in screenwriting who can work in English.

PROJECT DURATION

From 23rd of July 2017 until April 2018 (working break in December and January)

PLANNED MEETING TIMES

The first three meetings will be full day Sunday meetings (July 23rd, August 6th and August 27th). However, for the remaining months the group will meet every Wednesday evening, plus the whole day on the second Sunday of every month. In addition there will be individual work between meetings and possibly Skype sessions.

EXPENSE ALLOWANCE

The authors receive a scholarship on a monthly basis in the amount of 500€ (a total of 3.500€), plus travel expenses to the meetings.

SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants will be chosen based on the individual's writing samples, background and ability to work as a member of a team. For the final selection process, there will be an interview (either face to face or via Skype).

TERMS OF CONDITIONS

- Curriculum vitae
- Two screenwriting samples in English (preferably in the screenplay format)

APPLICATION DEADLINE

You may submit your application as of now to Ingrid Stolz: ies@dai-heidelberg.de.
Closing date: **Friday, June 30th, 2017.**

HEAD WRITER

Alex David is an award-winning US-American screenwriter who has worked in development for the production companies of Mel Gibson (*Braveheart*), Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*) and Brett Ratner (*Rush Hour*) and for directors Ang Lee (*Brokeback Mountain*) and Nicole Holtcener (*Sex and the City*). He completed his studies with a *Master of Fine Arts* in Screenwriting at the American Film Institute (AFI), Los Angeles. Currently he's writing projects for Constantin Films and other German production companies. Also, he teaches Film and Television at the Universities of Heidelberg and Mannheim, and for several years now has run writing workshops at the German-American Institute Heidelberg.

PROJECT DETAILS

We will develop the concept, world, characters, relationship arcs, plot lines and subplots for a multiple through-line character drama. The series will weave together a number of critical issues facing our present time in which divisional politics have swept across Europe and the United States. The goal is for the characters to represent the political perspectives and voices from both sides.

The work will proceed as though this were a contracted ongoing TV series. We hope to create a second phase to the project in which the writers will write full episodes within the Writers' Room format.

Further details as well as rights, protections, and other contract issues, will be discussed at the Finalist Round of the applications.

We're looking forward to your application!

YOURS DAI HEIDELBERG

