

## GUIDELINES FOR RECEIVING A FULL PRODUCER CREDIT IN AUSTRALIAN FEATURE FILM PRODUCTION FROM SCREEN PRODUCERS AUSTRALIA

### OBJECTIVES

- Offer the accreditation **S.P.A.** mark for producers to include in the screen credits as an acknowledgement of her or his vital role and contribution
- Classifying eligible producers for inclusion in the Screen Producers Australia Awards\*
- Assist in mediation of credit disputes

### OVERVIEW

The Producer insignia for Australian productions is the **S.P.A.** (in capitals) acronym that appears following the names of producer/s lodging the **Levy Request for Information Form (RFI)** for members or the **Notice of Producer Credit Form** for non-members of their feature, documentary or long form television (drama, narrative comedy or children's) production with Screen Producers Australia.

The **S.P.A.** insignia is an accreditation mark only and does not necessarily indicate membership of Screen Producers Australia, however it does signify that the credited producer/s performed a majority of the producing duties on the production as outlined in the Producer Credit Criteria.

### PROCESS

Following receipt of the Levy Request for Information Form (RFI) or the Notice of Producer Credit Form, Screen Producers Australia staff will offer the verified producers of the production the use of the **S.P.A.** acronym. Use of the **S.P.A.** acronym is entirely optional.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible, it is preferable that the production has passed the SAC (Significant Australian Content) test and granted a Provisional Certificate or be an official co-production as defined by the [Screen Australia Producer Offset Guidelines](#). If for any reason a Provisional Certificate has not been issued, note the reason in the relevant section on the submitted Levy Request for Information Form (RFI) or the Notice of Producer Credit Form.

### FEATURE FILM AWARD DEFINITION\*\*

To be classed as a Feature Film for entry into the Screen Producers Australia Awards, the production must be a dramatised story of at least **70 minutes** in duration.

### PRODUCER CREDIT CRITERIA

Subject to the control of the Owner, the title of Producer for an Australian Feature Film is expected to exercise decision-making authority over a majority of the following specific job functions to receive the **S.P.A.** mark:

#### 1. DEVELOPMENT

- Conceive the underlying concept upon which the production is based or involved at its inception **OR**
- Select the material upon which the production is based and secured necessary rights for development and production of the material.
- Select the writer(s).
- Supervise and oversee the development process.
- Secure the initial financing and/or development funding.
- Serve as the primary point of contact for the studio and/or financing entity.

#### 2. PRE-PRODUCTION

- Select the director and producer(s) and/or production supervisor and/or production manager and/or line producer.
- Select the principal cast in consultation with the director.
- In consultation with the director, select the production designer, cinematographer, editor and visual effects company.
- Participate in location scouting in consultation with the director.
- Supervise the preparation of the preliminary budget and approve and sign the final budget in consultation with the production supervisor/manager and/or line producer.

- Is creatively involved in the final shooting script in consultation with the director and the writer(s) and approve and sign off on the final shooting script.
- Approve the final shooting schedule in consultation with the director.

### **3. PRODUCTION**

- Exercise final approval of the deals for the principal components of the production.
- Provide continuous in-person consultation with the director and principal cast
- In collaboration with the director, provide in-person consultation with the production designer, art department, wardrobe, make-up and hair.
- In collaboration with the director, provide in-person consultation with the stunt coordinator and mechanical effects (if applicable).
- Supervise "on-set" and on a continuous basis the day-to-day operation of the producing team and the entire shooting company.
- Approve the weekly cost report.
- View the "dailies" and provided in-person consultation with the director, the editor, the studio and/or financial entity.

### **4. POST PRODUCTION & MARKETING**

- Provide in-person participation on visual effects in consultation with the director, the studio or financial entity.
- Select the composer in consultation with the director, and participated in-person with the composer and the director in the scoring process
- Provide in-person consultation with the editor along with the director, the studio or financial entity, and participated on the final cut of the feature film.
- Consult with the director and the editor during the preparation of the first cut that is shown to the studio/financial entity.
- Select the music supervisor in consultation with the director, and participated in-person during the music recording sessions.
- Provide in-person consultation with the director on the re-recording stage.
- Provide in-person consultation with the director on the titles and opticals.
- Provide in-person consultation with the cinematographer, the director, the studio and/or financing entity on the answer print or edited master.
- Consult on the media plan and materials, and the marketing and distribution plans for the feature film.
- Consulted on the plans for exploitation of the feature film in ancillary and foreign markets.

\*Only financial members of Screen Producers Australia are eligible to enter the Awards

\*\* Based on the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA) award entry criteria