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MEET THE NEXT GENERATION OF AUSTRALIAN SCREEN TALENT – ONES TO WATCH 2018

Screen Producers Australia has selected twenty emerging producers from across Australia to participate in the Ones To Watch mentoring program for 2018, bolstered by key partners SBS and Screen Australia and supporting sponsor, YouTube.

Celebrating its sixth year, Ones To Watch strives to guide and nurture the next wave of Australia's talented producers. The program focuses on providing expert, one-on-one mentoring and career guidance by seasoned screen industry producers.

Screen Producers Australia has an established history of helping emerging screen makers accelerate their careers and develop wider audiences in tandem with the industry expertise of the Ones To Watch key project partners.

SBS is awarding one of the Ones To Watch producers with a **\$15,000 'SBS First Look Grant'** to assist in the development of ideas and project concepts. The winner will be announced at the Screen Producers Australia Awards to be held in Melbourne on the final day of **SCREEN FOREVER, 20 - 22nd November 2018**. Prior to the conference, SBS will host all of the Ones To Watch participants in a one-on-one pitching session with its commissioning editors.

Additionally, Screen Australia will create the opportunity for the emerging producers to secure the Screen Internship, a grant to support an internship at a production company locally or internationally.

"We saw a diverse selection of applicants and exciting projects. We are inspired by the potential of the talent, their creativity and for the future of Australian stories to be told. We are excited to support the journeys of the 2018 Ones To Watch and open the doors for emerging producers to industry exposure, mentorships with experienced producers and authentic industry opportunities" said Screen Producers Australia CEO, Matthew Deaner.

SBS Head of Commercial and Production, Chris Irvine, added "SBS's involvement with SPA's Ones To Watch program is an important part of our commitment to developing the next wave of Australian screen production talent; and to see that talent better reflect the diversity of Australian audiences watching those screens."

Screen Producers Australia congratulates the successful emerging producers for Ones To Watch 2018:

Andre Lima
Bridget May
Brooke Silcox
Carl Firth
Cody Greenwood
Dan Trotter
Dominic Crisci
Grace Rein
Jessica Carrera
Kate Fox

Laura Clelland
Lester Francois
Mat Govoni
Nicolette Minster
Olivia Olley
Rachael Wegener
Ryan Verbruggen
Taylor Litton-Strain
Tom Phillips
Tsu Shan Chambers

The participants were chosen after a competitive submission process which included compliance with strict application guidelines. The rigorous selection process identifies producers already working within the screen content industry now seeking to further expand their careers and businesses.

The Ones To Watch 2018 participants will spend six months being mentored by some of the most accomplished and experienced producers in the Australian screen industry, showcased to industry and provided development workshops and opportunities.

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About Screen Producers Australia:

Screen Producers Australia was formed by the screen industry to represent large and small enterprises across a diverse production slate of feature film, television and interactive content. Our members employ hundreds of producers, thousands of related practitioners and drive more than \$1.7 billion worth of annual production activity from the independent sector.

On behalf of these businesses we are focused on delivering a healthy commercial environment through ongoing engagement with elements of the labour force, including directors, writers, actors and crew, as well as with broadcasters, distributors and government in all its various forms. This coordinated dialogue ensures that our industry is successful, employment levels are strong and the community's expectations of access to high quality Australian content have been met.