

The 2008 Robin Anderson Film Awards

General Information

The following points might be useful in the development of your film.

CONTENT: Strength of Ideas and Concepts

The development of a concept is paramount to ensure the vision is in tune with the way it is produced. Concept development is vital before any filming commences. This ensures that the film is able to capture the imagination of the audience in the case of a fictional film, or portray real life in the case of a nonfiction film.

- You will need to think about how you will convey your concepts and engage with the audience.
- Think about the appropriate genre as a vehicle to carry your ideas and concept(s). Decide whether it will be a documentary, based on observational or essay style, or dramatisation which falls into the, for example, thriller or comedy style.
- Consider the style of the film. Will you be working with filmic conventions or breaking them in the production of your film?
- Convey your ideas within the film clearly and strongly. Remember that you have to communicate your ideas and concepts within 8 minutes (including credits). Ensure your concept can be communicated in this timeframe.
- It is worth showing your film to others and asking them for their estimation of how well your film conveys your ideas and concepts. Feedback is very important.

STYLE: Technical Proficiency

This relates to how your film is developed in all its stages; from original concept to finished product and all the stages along the way.

1. Pre-production

This relates to the progress of the film from initial ideas to the development of a script. Pre-production attempts to map out what the film will look like in terms of scenes, the dynamic flow of events and the development of a story.

In pre-production it is important to consider the following:

- development of a script choosing an appropriate genre
- selecting locations thinking about the stylistic look through image and sound
- selection of actors.

2. Production

The production of a film relates to the actual 'filming' of the film from the consideration of the use of the camera to the establishment of continuity during the filming. If you are organised and have made appropriate plans you should be able to minimise the production time of your film.

In production of your work it is important to consider the following:

- development of scenes
- development of characters and or action.

3. Post-Production

Post-production deals with the final construction of the film in which the style, action and characters come alive. Editing is the most important aspect to post-production as it shapes the efforts of your filming (what is called 'rushes') into a refined and finished work. Good editing should ensure a particular flow of the film providing a distinctive look to the work, the movement of events and character development.

In post-production of your work it is important to consider the following:

- continuity of scenes
- variation of camera angles to create film movement
- use of special effects
- inclusion of sound and music (ensure copyright has been observed)
- inclusion of titles or credits outlining all those who assisted and their roles.

