



REELWORLD

SCREEN INSTITUTE | FILM FESTIVAL | DATABASE
BLACK | INDIGENOUS | PEOPLE OF COLOUR

EST. 2000



2023

ABOUT REELWORLD



Reelworld was founded in 2000 by award-winning actress and producer Tonya Williams to advance opportunities for Canadians who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, and People of Colour in the screen industries by providing professional development and advocating for racial equity in Canadian content and production. Reelworld Screen Institute, a non-profit, provides training programs and presents the acclaimed Reelworld Film Festival, which celebrates stories by racialized Canadians. Providing access to opportunities is core to Reelworld, and Access Reelworld is Canada's leading hiring platform for racialized crews and talent. Reelworld Foundation, a registered charity, is transforming the industry by creating mechanisms that hold systems accountable for greater equity.

**Founder & Executive Director,
Tonya Williams**

REELWORLD STAFF



**EMILY-JANE
WILLIAMS**



**SAFIA
ABDIGIR**



**PAHULL
BAINS**



**ZAARIN
BUSHRA**



**NATALIE
NADEEN**



**BAL
NJOVANA**



**JENN
PERSAUD**



**JORDAN
SMITH-ST.KITTS**



**ANDREW
CHUNG**



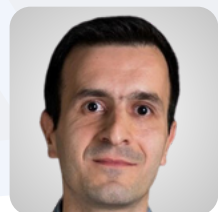
**AMADEUS
WHEESK**



**JULISA
MARCEL**



**KENYA
MATHLIN**



**REZA
SAMENI**



**AISHA
EVELYN**



**MARINA
HANNA**



**AHLAM
HASSAN**



HIRE CREWS, CREATIVES & PRODUCTION STAFF

Launched in July 2020, Access Reelworld is a fully transparent and searchable recruiting platform for Canadian creatives in the screen industry who are Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian and People of Colour.

We believe that creating a space for authentic voices at all levels of the film and television industries is crucial to building a better and more respectful world. Hiring diverse talent helps to tell well-rounded and informed stories and attract additional audiences.



JOIN THE DATABASE

Find racially diverse crew, creatives and production staff.
Increase access to opportunity.
Build a more equitable industry.

Access Reelworld is owned by the Reelworld Screen Institute (a non-profit), which is the home of the Reelworld Film Festival. To learn more, go to

www.reelworld.ca

REELWORLD PROGRAMS

EMERGING 20 PROGRAM



2022 E20 Alumna,
Preeti Torul

Reelworld's Emerging 20 Program is tailored to support 20 screenwriters focused on either Series or Film by pairing them with story editors and industry professionals to help hone their scripts over a period of 6 to 7 months.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)

BLACK ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM

This training initiative for Black Casting Directors, Agents, Managers and Film Producers provides business advisory services, mentorship, networking, and capital investment.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)



2022 BEP Alumna,
Glenda Clarke

REELWORLD PROGRAMS

PRODUCER PROGRAM



2022 Producer Program Alum,
Kent Donguines

The Reelworld Producer Program is a year-long program that provides learning opportunities and creates pathways to build a career as a producer in the television industry. The program candidates will be immersed in the business side of the Canadian entertainment field. After selecting a project, they will learn valuable skills such as creating a corporation, retaining intellectual property rights, choosing and optioning scripts, creating deal memos, choosing key creatives and casting directors, plus much more.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)

PRODUCER ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

The Reelworld Producer Accelerator Program supports the Producer Program participants in continuing to develop their projects optioned the previous year. The Reelworld Producers meet with various speakers and get the opportunity to attend BANFF for pitches and networking, as well as TIFF and CONTENT CANADA to broaden their contact circles. With many receiving development funds, Reelworld will continue to support their process.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

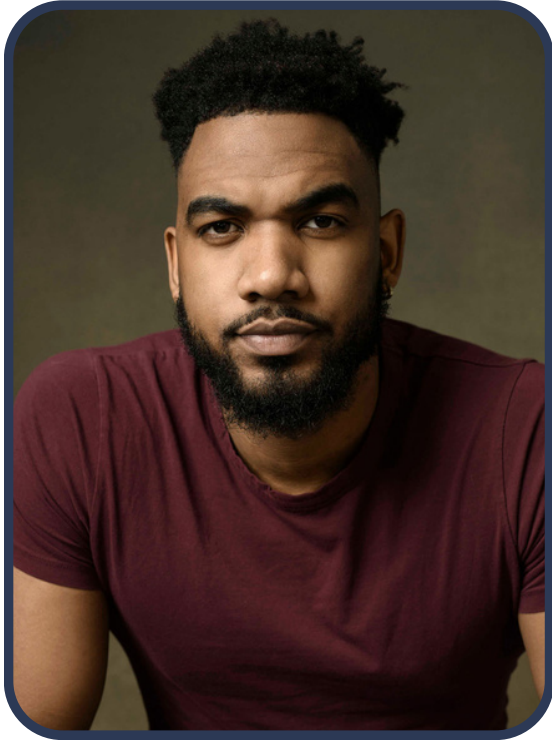
[LEARN MORE](#)



2022 Producer Accelerator
Alumna, Sonya Lee

REELWORLD PROGRAMS

LEVEL UP PROGRAM



2021 Level Up Alum,
Adrian Wallace

Level UP is an on-the-ground experience developed in partnership with Rogers Sports & Media, Shaftesbury and Pope Productions for Canadian writers and directors. Two writers are selected to work remotely in the writers' room of Citytv show "Hudson & Rex" for four weeks and one week on set, while two directors are chosen to shadow a director on the set for four weeks.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)

MERIDIAN ARTISTS APPRENTICESHIP

The Meridian Artists Apprenticeship offers one selected participant the opportunity to see firsthand how a service agency functions. Through a combination of assignments, shadowing, and one-on-one meetings with senior team members, the apprentice can experience what it is like to be a Talent Agent.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)



2023 Meridian Artists Alumna,
Andria Barrett

REELWORLD PROGRAMS

MARKET READY PROGRAM



Reelworld's Market Ready initiative provides Reelworld program alums with training, prep, and access to key markets.

To date, Reelworld has taken delegates to the following markets:

TIFF, Content Canada, Content London, BANFF, Prime Time, and Festival de Cannes.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)

2022 BEP & Market Ready Alum,
Sheldon Shaw

HOLLYWOOD CONNECTOR PROGRAM

An initiative to facilitate long-lasting relationships between Canada-based talent and LA-based producers and executives.

Click the button below to learn more about the program and apply for the 2024 cohort.

[LEARN MORE](#)



2022 Hollywood Connector
Alumna, Rami Kahlon



LEARN MORE ABOUT
REELWORLD'S PROGRAMS AT
WWW.REELWORLD.CA/PROGRAMS



REELWORLD

FILM FESTIVAL+SUMMIT

REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL



*23rd Annual Reelworld
Film Festival at the
Paradise Theatre*

Reelworld is Canada's longest-running film festival and institute committed to advancing opportunities for Black, Indigenous, Asian, South Asian, and People of Colour in the Canadian screen industries. Our goal is to reduce barriers and foster authentic stories. The film festival showcases a lineup of feature films and various short films from four different short programs, with themes that change yearly. All the films in the festival are created by Canadian Black, Indigenous, Asian, and People of Colour.

Reelworld Film Festival proudly presents cash and in-kind awards valued over \$45,000. This year, they awarded \$25,000 for Outstanding Feature Film and \$10,000 for Outstanding Short Film.

"I've known about Reelworld for a very very long time and it's amazing what you guys are doing with the summit as well so congratulations to you guys. This is my first Reelworld, my first time acting in a feature at Reelworld so thank you so much. This experience has been amazing and what you guys are doing, it's phenomenal!"

"Strangers in a Room" won the 2023 Audience Choice awards.



*Jonathan Kim, 2023, lead actor
in "Strangers in a Room"*



**VIEW OUR 2023 REELWORLD FILM
FESTIVSL+SUMMIT PHOTO GALLERY
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**

ABOUT REELWORLD FILM FESTIVAL+SUMMIT



*Marquee for the 23rd Annual
Reelworld Film
Festival+Summit*

This year, Reelworld announced the expansion of the Film Festival to include a two-day Summit that jump-starts the festival week.

The Reelworld Film Festival+Summit features seven days of screenings, keynote speeches, industry discussions, fireside chats, pitch opportunities, awards presentations, and breakfast/luncheon networking. These collective elements enhance the experience for our attendees, providing an opportunity for Canadian creatives, professionals and government leaders to engage in meaningful dialogue about the state of our industry today.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

There are many ways to get involved with the Reelworld Film Festival+Summit:

Submit a film (2024 submission dates TBA)

Apply to be a volunteer

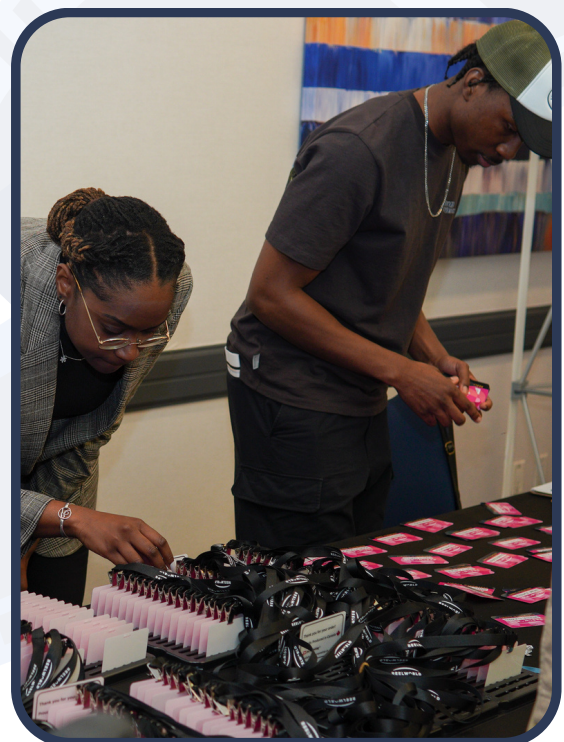
Apply for media accreditation

Purchase a Festival+Summit Pass

Purchase film tickets

To learn more, visit our website, sign up for our monthly newsletter and follow us on social media.

CONNECT WITH US



*2023 Reelworld Summit Staff &
Volunteer*

2023 REELWORLD HONOUREES

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



2023 Recipient,
Traci Melchor

Each year Reelworld honours an individual whose creative excellence in film over decades has positively impacted the representation of Canada's diversity nationally and internationally.

Past recipients include Jennifer Podemski, Clement Virgo and Mina Shum.

[READ MORE](#)

VISIONARY AWARD

Each year Reelworld honours an individual whose work, passion and determination behind the scenes made a significant contribution to Canadian film, television and media over the span of their career.

Past recipients include Weengushk Film Festival founder Shirley Cheechoo, journalist Alice Shih, and CBC's Executive Director of Equity and Inclusion Nick Davis.

[READ MORE](#)



2023 Recipient,
Anita Lee

2023 REELWORLD TRAILBLAZERS

Each year, Reelworld recognizes six individuals blazing a new trail in the industry and inspiring others through their constant efforts to improve and diversify our media and entertainment landscape.

Past recipients include actor/director Elle-Maija Tailfeathers, actor Simu Liu, producer Shant Joshi, and writer Marsha Greene.



ANDREW PHUNG



MARIE KA



WINNIFRED JONG



AMANDA STRONG



FARID YAZDANI



FAWZIA MIRZA



**WATCH THE REELWORLD
AWARDS SHOW TO LEARN ABOUT
THIS YEAR'S HONOUREES AND
FILM AWARD RECIPIENTS**



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