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## **ABC and Screenwest announce new Internship Initiative.**

The ABC Children's department and Screenwest are pleased to announce a co-funded Diversity Internship Initiative to facilitate production experience for emerging West Australian practitioners from a diverse background or an under represented community within ABC Children's productions at ABC Ultimo in Sydney.

Announced yesterday at DADAA in Freemantle, Screenwest officially launched the Screenwest Diversity Equity and Inclusion Action Plan and the new Diversity Fund. As part of this announcement was the new Internship Initiative - a co-funded collaboration between the ABC and Screenwest to identify suitable emerging production talent and provide paid learning and production immersion opportunities, and provide reciprocal experience for the existing teams and exposure to new talent from the West.

Depending on prior experience, the Internship will involve a broad range of production exposure and the candidate will receive a production credit for the work completed.

"The initiative aims to promote diversity in all of its forms, and is designed to help provide opportunities for practitioners to be able to step up to the next level and progress their careers in the sector, building a network in the industry. We are delighted to be offering this opportunity to an emerging practitioner as we are committed to fostering new talent into the industry," said David Anderson, ABC Director of Television.

Rikki Lea Bestall, Head of Development & Production at Screenwest said "We are excited to be working with the ABC to give diverse WA talent, the opportunity to increase their professional experience, expand their skills and develop contacts through on-the-job training."

The candidate will be embedded within the ABC Children's department and rotate between a few productions including: *Good Game Spawn Point* - the ABC's show about games made by gamers and ME Productions who make short from documentary strands. In these busy production environments they will working at an entry level but exposed to all facets of the production cycle. Tasks will be wide ranging from research, assisting on field and studio shoots, booking talent, supporting the producers and following the show through the post production pipeline.

It is anticipated that the Internship will identify one candidate for approx. 24 weeks.

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