

PRESS RELEASE
For immediate distribution

Forum RIDM is launching its call for applications for the 8th edition of the TALENT LAB



Montreal, Thursday, August 26, 2021 — **Forum RIDM**, which will take place from **November 13 to 17**, is pleased to launch the call for applications for the 8th edition of the **Talent Lab**, presented by **Netflix**. Candidates are invited to submit their project between **August 26 and September 30**. This edition will see 16 emerging filmmakers participate in this documentary laboratory in the presence of artists and experts who are part of the Montreal International Documentary Festival (RIDM) and Forum RIDM's programming.

The **Forum RIDM Talent Lab** is a closed-circuit Talent Lab for 16 emerging Canadian artists from all backgrounds and origins. The program revolves around the creative process and the documentary language of the participants and offers mentoring adapted to each participant's needs.

This year's Talent Lab will take place over three days from **Saturday, November 13 to Monday, November 15, 2021**. Over these three days, participants will benefit from master classes and discussions with creative experts from the documentary industry. Selected filmmakers will also have the opportunity to participate in all the activities organized during Forum RIDM.

Netflix supports the Forum RIDM Talent Lab in its mission to develop the next generation of Canadian documentary talent. This partnership gives us the opportunity to enhance individual and group coaching, and it also allows us to invite big names from the international documentary world to exchange virtually with our participants.

As part of the Talent Lab, four prizes in the form of support will be awarded to winning participants by our partners [CANAL D](#), [ONF](#), [NFB](#), and [CINEGROUND](#).

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR THE 2021 TALENT LAB

Emerging filmmakers with projects in development or production are invited to apply until September 30, 2021. All documentary projects are welcome: short films, series, feature films, interactive formats, or experimental films.

-> For more information or to submit an application, please visit our [call for projects](#) page.

The **Talent Lab** has hosted a total of **204 participants** since its inception, with **60 films finalized in seven years** and participants from across Canada (Quebec, Yukon, Ontario, British Columbia, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, etc.) and abroad (Lebanon, Mexico, France, Palestine, etc.).

-> **News from the 2020 cohort:** Four projects received support from the Canada Council for the Arts (*Wizard Donkey Magic* by Sonya Mladenova, *Half a Person* by Erin Weisgerber, *Nu Elew* by Karla Meza, and *Les Enfants de la Covid* by Joudy Hilal). Kimberly Ann Surin's project [Le relais – Derrière la médaille](#) was produced by [Intuitive Pictures](#) and broadcast on TOU.TV and CBC Gem.

The Forum RIDM Talent Lab initiative is made possible thanks to our main partner [Netflix](#) and with the support of [Canal D](#), [Cineground](#), the [ONF](#), and the [NFB](#).

About Netflix

With 209 million paid members in over 190 countries enjoying TV series, documentaries, and feature films across a wide variety of genres and languages, Netflix is the world's leading streaming entertainment service. Thanks to its commitment-free subscription, members can watch as much as they want, anytime, anywhere, on any internet-connected screen. Members can play, pause, and resume watching, all without commercials.

About the Forum RIDM

Each year, Forum RIDM offers an intensive program of business meetings and professional development workshops. The 17th edition of the Forum RIDM will be held from November 13 to 17, 2021. The 8th edition of the Forum RIDM Talent Lab will be held from November 13 to 15, 2021.

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