



MEDIA RELEASE

Keep Calm, Stay Queer! QSFF is Nearly Here!

Queer Screen Film Fest: 16 September – 26 September 2021

Thursday 12 August: Queer Screen has moved its upcoming Queer Screen Film Fest completely online with films available nationally on demand for 11 days from Thursday 16 September to Sunday 26 September.

The 9th Queer Screen Film Fest's full program will be announced on Thursday 26 August. Over 40 feature films, documentaries and shorts will be available to stream by LGBTIQ+ communities and allies.

Festival Director Lisa Rose says "While we had hoped to bring a hybrid Festival to both Sydney cinemas and our national online community, we are delighted to be able to queer up screens around the country during our planned dates, especially when the need for queer content is more important than ever with so many of us isolated from our communities."

After having awarded \$30,000 since 2018, Queer Screen Pitch Off returns for another year and again confirms Queer Screen's commitment to supporting the Australian film industry. Hosted online, Queer Screen Pitch Off is short film competition where up to six eligible filmmakers will be invited to spruik their film proposal to a panel of expert assessors on the closing day of the festival, Sunday 26 September. Up for grabs is **\$10,000** of funding towards the production of a LGBTIQ+ short film (narrative, documentary or a stand-alone web series pilot).

"Queer Screen was so energised by the experience of last year's virtual Pitch Off competition as it enabled so many filmmakers from right across Australia to participate. We can't wait to see what projects are submitted this year," Rose adds.

Submissions for Queer Screen Pitch Off are open now and close for Queer Screen members on Sunday 5 September and a week earlier for non-members.

Online Passes and Gift Vouchers are on sale now. Please visit queerscreen.org.au or download the Queer Screen app, or call (02) 9280 1533 to book. Become a Queer Screen member for discounted tickets.

-ENDS-

Note to Editors:

- Festival Director Lisa Rose and Queer Screen Co-Chair Cheryl Kavanagh are available for interview.
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