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Presents

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# Doha Film Institute Grants Programme – General Guidelines

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## Series

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'Kawkabani' by Hossein Heydar

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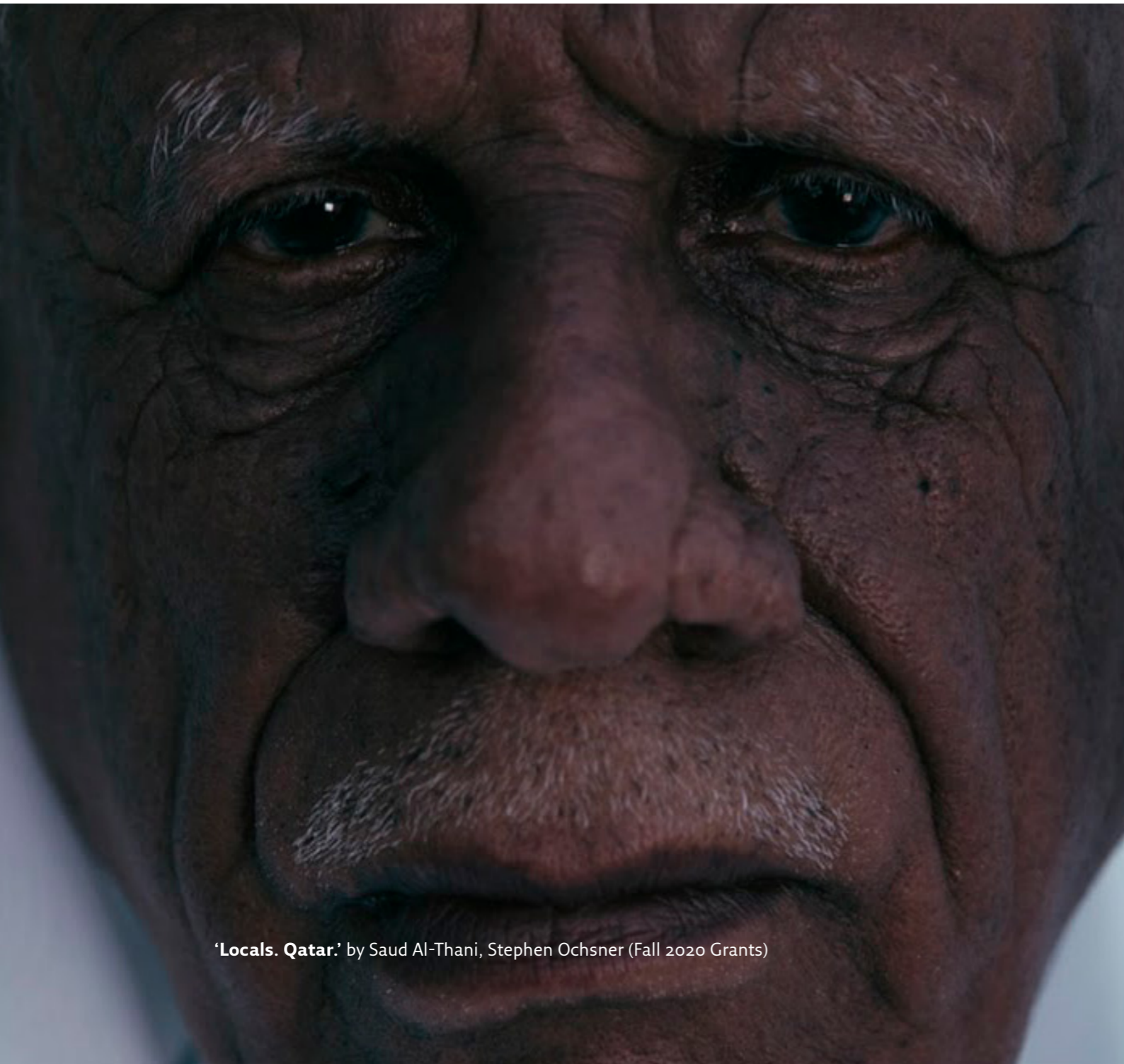
**Note:** Guidelines are subject to change without prior notice.  
Make sure to read the rules and regulations before applying or re-applying.

**Cover Still:** 'The Closet Sessions' by Ahmad Ibrahim (Fall 2022 Grants)

# INTRODUCTION

The **TV Series Development Grant** aims to assist independent screenwriters, directors, and/or producers from the MENA region in developing original serialized **fiction and creative documentary** content intended for global markets.

The **Web Series Production Grant** aims to assist independent MENA filmmakers in financing original serialized fiction and creative documentary content for the web.



'Locals. Qatar.' by Saud Al-Thani, Stephen Ochsner (Fall 2020 Grants)

## Eligibility Criteria

Projects may be original concepts (scripted dramatic or creative documentary) or adaptations (provided the rights for the original work are secured).

Projects must have cultural relevance or ties to the MENA region.

Projects of a promotional nature; game, talk or reality shows; making-of or behind-the-scenes; reportages and news programs are not eligible for consideration.

### 1. Development funding for TV Series:

- The Programme defines TV series as serialized content with at least three linear episodes.
- An episode is defined as minimum of 26 minutes in duration.
- A MENA screenwriter and/or director with previous credits must be attached.
- An attached producer with a registered company is strongly preferred at the time of submission.
- Rights to the proposal should not be transferred to a broadcaster or VOD platform at the time of submission.

### 2. Production funding for Web Series:

- The Programme defines web series as serialized content with at least six linear episodes.
- An episode is defined as minimum of 3 minutes in duration.
- A MENA director with previous credits must be attached.
- A producer with a registered company must be attached.
- The pilot episode for the series must have been completed at the time of submission.
- A minimum of 50% of the financing at the time of submission is strongly preferred.
- A granted web series is eligible to re-apply for only one additional sequel season.

**Incomplete applications will be automatically excluded without prior notification.**

For any questions, you may contact the grants team at [grants@dohafilminstitute.com](mailto:grants@dohafilminstitute.com)

# GRANT TYPES

Director's nationality determines grant eligibility as follows:

	TV SERIES	WEB SERIES
	DEVELOPMENT	PRODUCTION
<b>Qatar &amp; MENA</b>	✓	✓

see list of MENA and non-MENA countries here:

[Countries List - Blog | Doha Film Institute](#)

## How to apply

To apply for a grant, you must submit your project by filling in an online form and attaching your artistic dossier\* to it. The form opens every January and July on announced dates.

**Incomplete applications will be automatically excluded without prior notification.**

To help you prepare your application, below is a list of the information needed to complete the form:

- Title - Logline, Synopsis - Genre - Production Countries - Production Details (Shooting Location, Language, Runtime) - Team's Contact Details - Budget - Financial Plan - Production Schedule - Previous Work - Pilot(s) Link(s) (web series) - Attachments\* (script, dossier)

**\*Dossier (via attachment section on form)**

For the first stage of selection, the dossier can be submitted in English, Arabic, or French. If the project is pre-selected, all documents will need to be translated in English.

	REQUIRED SUBMISSION MATERIALS	TV SERIES	WEB SERIES
	ARTISTIC DOSSIER (As one single PDF File)	DEVELOPMENT	PRODUCTION
STAGE 01	Logline (up to 100 words)	✓	✓
	Synopsis (arc of the story and backstory - up to 2 pages)	✓	✓
	Format and Concept presentation	✓	✓
	Character descriptions	✓	✓
	Screenwriter/Director's statement	✓	✓
	Screenwriter's bio and filmography	✓	✓
	Director's bio and filmography (if other than Screenwriter)	✓	✓
	Key creative team's biography and filmography	IF AVAILABLE	✓
	Production company profile	IF AVAILABLE	✓
	Passport Scan	SCREENWRITER	DIRECTOR
	Visual treatment and supporting material (moodboard, trailer...)	✓	✓
	Link(s) to previous works (up to 2 - with English ST)	IF AVAILABLE	IF AVAILABLE
	Link to pilot episode (with English ST)	N/A	✓
	FIRST-SEASON EPISODES (as one single PDF file)		
	Treatment of each episode	✓	✓
	Final script of each episode	PILOT SCRIPT IF AVAILABLE	✓

# Selection Process

The selection is made in two stages:

**Stage 1:**

- A project is considered for stage 1 if it has successfully applied and meets all eligibility criteria.
- Within 10 weeks, all applicants receive a status notification via email.
- If the project is shortlisted, it proceeds to stage 2.

**Stage 2:**

- The following documents are required for stage 2:

		TV DEVELOPMENT	WEB PRODUCTION
STAGE 2	Financial Plan*	Development only	✓
	Detailed total budget (in USD)	Development only	✓
	Chain of title (if adaptation)	✓	✓
	Existing Agreements with distributors, broadcaster or other	N/A	If available
	Production schedule	N/A	✓
	Audience, Marketing, and Launch Strategy	N/A	✓

\*Status of funding sources need to be specified

- When shortlisted, a project can update the creative material sent for stage 1.
- All documents submitted in Arabic and / or French (including subtitles on submitted rough cuts and previous work) need to be translated into English.
- Within two months, projects will be notified via email of their final selection status

## Series Grant Amounts

**TV Series**

Development: up to **\$20,000**

**Web Series**

Production: up to **\$30,000**



'The House That My Mother Built' by Alyaa Musa (Spring 2023 Grants)

