

Friday, 18 May 2018

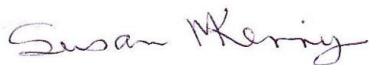
To the funding body assessor:

The Real Film Festival brings cinema to the community of Newcastle and the Hunter region. The event has a dual purpose of engaging for both film lovers and filmmakers. As an academic at the University of Newcastle, in the School of Creative Industries, my student's and myself have been involved with and supported the *Real Film Festival* since it's inception in 2012.

Regional audiences also benefit with the RFF, because Newcastle can screen shorts, features and documentaries films that would not normally reach Hunter audiences. The RFF offers a series of professional filmmaking workshops open to school aged, TAFE and Tertiary students. In addition to this are professional development sessions where Screen NSW executives and high-profile filmmakers discuss contemporary filmmaking issues like new models of distribution. These sessions are extremely well supported by the Hunter's filmmaking community and they allow regional filmmakers opportunities to approach and pitch ideas to the Australia's filmmaking elite. The RFF provides this precious opportunity.

Annette Hubber, Festival Director, consistently delivers a high quality and dynamic festival to the region and the University of Newcastle and its students have benefited greatly have having their work screened and by engaging with industry experts. I hope you can endorse the 2018 program. I would be happy to discuss this recommendation should that be required.

Regards,



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