Multimedia Production Lab Grants for South Caucasian Female Photographers

Tbilisi Photography and Multimedia Museum announces an open call for South Caucasian female photographers within the project "South Caucasus Photography Hub for Education and Innovation", funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Seven emerging female photographers who were born in Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan will be offered an opportunity to benefit from **Multimedia Production Lab Grant** aiming to support the production of the photo projects that cover social issues in South Caucasus region and related to South Caucasus Communities.

The Deadline for the applications: April 15th, 2019.

Mentor of the project: Justyna Mielnikiewicz / MAPS

Duration of the mentorship program: 6 months

Description: South Caucasus Photography Hub for Education and Innovations' Multimedia Lab Production Grant Program launched by Tbilisi Photography and Multimedia Museum aims to support the professional strengthening of emerging women photographers of South Caucasus that cover social issues related to Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia and use the medium of photography as the powerful tool of story-telling.

Multimedia Lab provides female photographers from 3 countries of South Caucasus production grants of 800 $ in order to encourage them to develop long term projects (up to 6 months) in their countries or about South Caucasus Communities in places where they live.

Female photographers are very active working on long-term projects on the most challenging social issues all over the region. Documenting the violation of the human rights enables advocating and defending them initiating real changes. By human rights we understand stories which tells various stories of people who strive for the right of dignified life. Those are stories which reflects on the rights of individuals belonging to communities they live in.

By opening the grant to those female photographers who were born in South Caucasus, but might now live elsewhere we encourage to widen the coverage of issues crucial to the region - such as migration, border crossing and national identity - all strictly connected to human rights issues. It could be a story of emigrants from Caucasus, done by Caucasus photographers; or a story on the youth finding or losing its national identity in the new place; or as during previous grant circle a story from South Caucasus done by South Caucasian photographers. Among other ideas it might be story about mixed family trying to find its place in war torn reality of early 90-es and onwards. We also looking for untold stories of thousands of South Caucasus nationals, who left temporary or for good their homeland but stay connected to their culture and heritage.

In the frame of Multimedia Lab Production Grant, each grantee will be guided and mentored by [Justyna Mielnikiewicz](#) – an award winning photographer and the member of [MAPS](#) agency , based in Caucasus since 2002.

The mentor of the project will individually work with each grantee during the whole period of production (through regular Skype sessions taking place once a month with each participant) in order to help the development each photo project. Skype mentoring sessions will be scheduled to match individual needs of each participant. Sessions will cover topics ranging from project writing and planning to editing the images. Ongoing discussion during monthly sessions will help to improve project as you will work on it, looking for ways to bring more depth to the final edited work.

By the end of the tutoring period, the slideshows will be produced out of each photo project.
The video editing of the slideshow production will be provided by the Tbilisi Photography & Multimedia Museum team.

Edited slideshows/multimedia will be uploaded at *[i-mediatheque](#)* (multimedia archives) of Tbilisi Photography & Multimedia Museum. *[i-mediatheque](#)* has been created within the project **["South Caucasus Photography Hub for Education and Innovation"](#)** and   consists of   hundreds slideshows/multimedia projects of photographers from all over the world that were screened in 2010-2019 in the program of [Night of Photography](#) the central event of [Tbilisi Photo Festival](#).

Selection of applicants: applicants will be selected by the committee of the Multimedia Production Lab in collaboration with the mentor of the project Justyna Mielnikiewicz and will be evaluated on the criteria of the applicant's work and quality of the proposal and the extent to which Multimedia Production Lab will contribute to the photographer's professional development.

Applicants are expected to work on their project and develop it during 6 months period. Final edit must consist from minimum 50 % of new photos, done during the mentorship period. If participant will not be able to do the work and complete that requirement the grant would need to be returned to the organization.

How to apply
Applicants should send:

1 - The description of the ongoing or a proposal for the new photo project (maximum one page in PDF) that an applicant wishes to focus on in the frame of the Multimedia Lab Production Grant. Please include all contact details and if you have, the link to the web page with your work.

2 - A portfolio of no more than 30 images in jpg format. Portfolio can include one or two stories (finalized or ongoing) accompanied by additional single images if necessary.

You must name your images this way:

Your last name, followed by a number – Example: *Smith.01.jpg* .
Your images should be sized 1200 pixels on the longest side, at 72 dpi. Each photograph must be accompanied by a caption describing the date, place, and situation captured.

The grantees of the first edition of Multimedia Production Lab Grant Program 2018

Georgia

Dina Oganova

Natela Grigalashvili

Tamuna Chkareuli

Armenia

[Sona Shahinyan](#)

[Yulia Grigoryants & Laurie Alvandian](#)

Azerbaijan

[Gulnar Salimova](#)

[Sitara Ibrahimova](#)

Please e-mail your application to: multimedia.lab@tpmm.ge

Deadline: **April 15ᵗʰ, 2019.**

Selected artists will be informed on April 30ᵗʰ, 2019.

(Only selected applicants will be notified.)