

SURAJ ISRANI CENTER FOR CINEMATIC ARTS

FALL 2023 CALL FOR FELLOWSHIP APPLICATIONS

DATE OF CALL: Monday, October 16, 2023

DEADLINE: Friday, November 10, 2023

MISSION: Supported by a generous gift from Deepak and Varsha Israni, the Suraj Israni Center for Cinematic Arts (SICCA) is designed to promote, advance and advocate for film, filmmaking and the cinematic arts within the School of Arts and Humanities. The purpose of the Center is to provide access and opportunity for current UC San Diego students to pursue their passion in film and to continue to define UC San Diego as the premiere destination in California for interdisciplinary, rigorous engagement with the arts in general, and filmmaking in particular. The SICCA will elevate the university's role as a leader in innovative, interdisciplinary collaboration in a both local and global perspective. From film scholars and film makers specializing in our unique border region to colleagues engaged in other national and transnational cinematic experiences, to practitioners in sound design, composition, writing and acting, the new center will engage across boundaries to combine learning and doing, storytelling and/as social engagement, and cross-media innovation.

PURPOSE OF FELLOWSHIPS: The fellowships will allow undergraduates, graduates, faculty, and staff engaged in film production or research to work on a project within the mission of the center. The fellowships are intended to help foster a lively academic community at the center. Fellows are expected to attend at least three events hosted by the center during the 2023-2024 academic year. Fellows will write an accessible description of their project for the center's website and will present their projects in Fall 2024 as part of the biannual Suraj Israni Fellowship forum.

The fellowship may support any project within the scope of the center's mission. Examples include but are not limited to:

- production on a narrative or documentary short-film
- production on an experimental film or video piece
- travel/access to an archive
- travel/fees to attend a film festival

For questions and clarifications regarding whether your proposal fits with the purpose of the fellowship, email surajisranicenter@ucsd.edu.

ELIGIBILITY: Please see below for eligibility rules depending on the applicant's UC San Diego status.

- Student applicants must be registered at UC San Diego as an undergraduate or graduate student in good standing.
- Senate Faculty and Unit 18 Lecturers must be in residence and not on an approved leave, sabbatical or work relocation. In addition, Unit 18 Lecturers must have an academic appointment at UC San Diego for the duration of the fellowship.
- Staff must be active employees who have completed their probationary period and are in good standing and not on an approved leave. For staff, fellowship activity must not interfere with their normally scheduled work hours at the university.

Previous fellowship awardees will not be eligible for another fellowship for two academic years. E.g., if you received a fellowship in the Fall 2022 application cycle, you will not be eligible until Fall 2024. This does not apply to fellows of the Fall 2022 cycle who received equipment-only awards.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Please submit an electronic application with the following information. All items are required for a complete application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

1. **Project Description** (no more than three pages). The description should include theoretical framing, your research plan and a paragraph of how the scholarly activity is consistent with the center's vision.
2. **Curriculum Vitae or resume.** Students should provide a list of works made recently and their role in their creation.
3. **Itemized budget** of anticipated expenses that will be paid via the fellowship.
4. **Reference letter** from a UC San Diego Faculty member (for undergraduate and graduate student applicants only).
5. **Relevant work sample** (for undergraduate and graduate student applicants only). Videos should be submitted via Vimeo/YouTube link, including password if required.

Submit application via email to surajisranicenter@ucsd.edu with the subject line: "Fall 2023 Fellowship".

REVIEW PROCESS: The center will convene a committee to review all complete applications. The committee will make a shortlist for each category and submit their recommendations to the director. The director will make a final determination of the awards in each category.

REPORTING PROCESS: Awardees will produce a one-page report by **December 31, 2024** of the project progress. This report will be compiled as part of the Suraj Israni Center for Cinematic Arts annual submission to the Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, and the content may be used as part of the center's reporting. Send your report to surajisranicenter@ucsd.edu.

FELLOWSHIP AWARDS:

- All awards will be up to a maximum of **\$2,500 each** based on the submitted budget.
- Undergraduate Students: Awards will be issued as stipends through the Financial Aid Office.
- Graduate Students: Awards will be issued as graduate stipends through the Home Department.
- Faculty: Faculty will be provided with a chartstring to charge expenses; the Home Department will be responsible for processing all reimbursements in Concur.
- Staff: The Center will process all reimbursements in Concur.