



Locarno Film Festival

The Locarno Film Festival (LFF) invites applications for the position as

HEAD OF LOCARNO PRO

Job description

The main mission of the Head of Locarno Pro is to develop strategies in order to involve key players of the international and Swiss independent film market, support them and attract them to Locarno to discover the programming of LFF and to participate in Locarno Pro specific activities. This is reflected in various aspects:

- Person of reference for the Festival's Presidency, Artistic and Operative Direction;
- Development of strategies and implementation of industry-related projects, services and activities of Locarno Pro;
- Elaboration of the industry budget and preparation of applications/reports for public funds (MEDIA Desk Suisse and others) in relation to the strategy developed;
- Search for financial and in-kind partners and negotiations;
- Continuous relations with international and Swiss institutional partners;
- Personalized relations with the various players of the international film industry: sellers, buyers, distributors (including VoD), exhibitors, producers, programmers, representatives of festivals and markets, film funders, institutions and associations of the sector;
- Close relations with the Swiss industry: distributors, exhibitors, sellers, producers, film festivals, film funders, institutions and associations;
- Supervision of the content of the various industry projects (guests, program, etc.) in coordination with the project managers. Includes working hands-in-hands with the Head of Open Doors to ensure the consistency of Locarno Pro's offer (more details below);
- In collaboration with the communication office, he/she outlines the communication strategy for Locarno Pro (print and digital), including Swiss and international trade papers;
- Supervision of the protocol and hospitality for industry guests, in coordination with the concerned office departments.

- Close collaboration with the programming office in regard to the guests of the film industry involved in the official selection;
- Represents Locarno in professional events in Switzerland and abroad, especially in the main international markets: Berlin, Cannes, Toronto and possibly others, if necessary and in agreement with the Festival's Presidency. Possible public speeches and interviews: presentations of Locarno Pro, its services and activities for industry professionals, occasionally for the general public;
- Supervision of the Locarno Pro team and the office workflow, includes weekly reports of activities to the Presidency;

Main responsibilities

The Head of Locarno Pro is responsible for the sector, its relevant positioning and for all the points listed above (including budget and financing), advised by the Deputy Head of Locarno Pro and backed by the Locarno Pro team, in particular the Manager and the Coordinator, throughout the year.

The Head of Locarno Pro is also responsible for the good synergies with the Open Doors pole in terms of activities, guests, communication. The regional focus of Open Doors is also taken into account in the general Locarno Pro strategy for the development and articulation of collaborations with (new) countries and markets.

However, the Deputy Head of Locarno Pro is fully responsible for the Open Doors section in terms of budget, partners, content (including guests) and staff dedicated to the program.

Requirements

- Consolidated experience in the film industry;
- Strategic visions to best position Locarno Pro and the Festival on the Swiss and international scene;
- Proven extended film industry network (international and Swiss) relevant to the Festival's positioning;
- Knowledge of the global independent film market, interest in new dynamics and trends in the film industry, including digital developments;
- Prior experience in team management; significant monitoring and administrative skills (funding applications/reports);
- Prior experience in managing projects/activities/services with digital implications (ideation, budget, supplier evaluation, deployment, evolution);
- Knowledge of the Locarno Film Festival;
- Prior experience in Film Festival organization in a Management or Team leading position is a plus;
- Excellent knowledge of spoken and written English (C2 – native) and at least one Swiss national language (Italian, French, German);
- Exceptional communication skills, self-assured in both manner and appearance;
- High flexibility and willingness to travel to Locarno, as well as the main festivals and markets throughout the year;

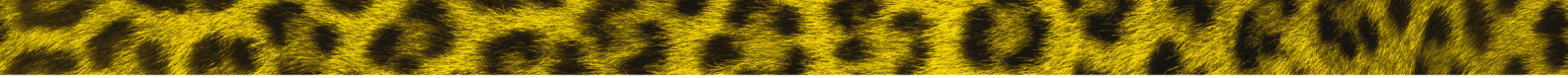
Contract and salary

The position offers a permanent contract at 60%-80%, according to the selected profile. Percentage of work may vary throughout the year and is to be discussed.

Salary to be agreed.

Place of work and language

The successful candidate will frequently travel to Locarno throughout the year for short-medium stays. He/She is eager to live in Locarno for 2.5 months per year (beginning of June – end of the Festival).



Locarno is in the Italian-speaking part of Switzerland. Fluency in Italian is a plus, but it is not required, though an excellent knowledge of spoken and written English and at least one Swiss national language is a must.

Application and Required documentation

Applicants should submit:

- A letter of motivation
- A detailed CV stressing their connections with the Swiss and international film industries
- Name, job titles and contact of three referees

Please send your electronic application to talents@locarnofestival.ch

E-mail subject: Head of Locarno Pro position – Your name

Applications received by the 30th of September 2020 will be given priority.