

Keepin' It REEL: Black Girls Film Camp 2025 - Teen Director Application

CAMP DATES: February 28 - June 21, 2025

LOCATION: Virtual

The Black Girls Film Camp will be held virtually in Spring 2025, from February 28 to June 21, 2025, on Saturdays from 10am - 1:30pm EST. The camp targets high school Black girls between the ages of 13 and 18 years old. Applications close on October 31, 2024.

ABOUT THE CAMP: Black Girls Film Camp (BGFC), is entering its fifth year in furthering its mission of creating a space for Black girls to tell their stories through film. Ten applicants will be chosen to participate in a completely free 16-week intensive camp. The participants will be given all of the technological tools and software needed to create their own films, as well as the opportunity to work closely with Black women filmmakers. Last year's speakers for the camp included 2x Award-Winning American Film Costume Designer, Ruth E. Carter, Award-Winning Filmmaker and Author, Tonya Lewis Lee and celebrity guests Tasha Smith, Tika Sumpter, and Meagan Good among many others. This year's 2025 speaker lineup will be mind-blowing and features several returning speakers, award-winning filmmakers, executive producers, and many more. Participants, coaches, and editors will also benefit from a fully-funded, in-person production weekend retreat in Los Angeles, California at USC. Once the participants have completed the camp, they will have their final films presented at a public screening and awards showcase in Summer 2025.

****NOTE**:** Please note that there will be an in-person weekend retreat during this year's Black Girls Film Camp that is planned to take place in Los Angeles, CA. In accordance with the CDC and WHO guidelines and to maintain a safe environment for all Black Girls Film Camp participants and associates, we will need to adhere to any Covid testing protocols as it pertains to our travel needs. For example, flights, hotels, workshop facilities, restaurants, etc. Should you decide to move forward in completing this application and are selected to participate in the program, please be prepared to be tested for Covid and to provide your Negative Covid test results as part of travel safety policies.

This camp is FREE for accepted applicants. Additionally, all lodging expenses will be covered for all selected teen directors.

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

APPLY BY 11:59PM EST OCTOBER 31, 2024!



General Applicant Information



2. Full Name *

3. Email *

4. Phone *

5. Age *

6. Grade *

Mark only one oval.☐ 9th☐ 10th☐ 11th☐ 12th☐ Other:

7. Gender *

Mark only one oval.☐ Female☐ Male☐ Non Binary☐ Other:

8. Ethnicity *

Mark only one oval.☐ Black☐ Hispanic☐ White☐ Asian☐ Native American☐ Other:

9. City and State of Residence *

Social Media Handles

10. Instagram

11. Facebook

12. Twitter

13. TikTok

Need-Based Questions

The following questions are not qualifying questions. These questions are being asked for applicants who may need additional financial assistance for resources or travel.

14. Do you have access to Wi-Fi at home? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

15. Do you have access to a laptop device at home? (Note: Answering "no" will not make you ineligible to participate.) *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

16. Do you attend a US Title One public school? If yes, what is the name of your school? ([Link to verify](#)) *

17. Do you reside in a single-parent household? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

Program and Extracurricular Participation

18. Do you have access to filmmaking programs in your school or community? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

19. Have you ever participated in any filmmaking programs before (in person or online)? If yes, please share the name of the program. *

20. What extracurricular/out-of-school time activities are you involved in? (Select all that apply.) *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Sports (Basketball, cheerleading, track, soccer, lacrosse, etc.)
- ☐ Art Enrichment Programs (Theater, Painting, Fashion, Culinary, etc.)
- ☐ Student Government/Leadership Teams
- ☐ I am not involved in any extracurricular/out-of-school time activities.
- ☐ Other: _____

21. How many hours do you spend a week participating in the extracurricular/out-of-school time activities you are involved in? *

Check all that apply.

- ☐ 0-1 hour
- ☐ 2-4 hours
- ☐ 5+ hours
- ☐ I am not involved in any extracurricular/out-of-school time activities.
- ☐ Other: _____

Skill Assessment

The following questions are being asked to gauge your current skills. These are not qualifying questions that may prevent you from being accepted into the program. Please answer honestly.

22. On a scale of 1 to 5, what level of experience do you have with using social media? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

No Experience I'm Basically An EXPERT!

23. On a scale of 1 to 5, what level of experience do you have with taking pictures from a phone device? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

No Experience I'm Basically An EXPERT!

24. On a scale of 1 to 5, what level of experience do you have with recording videos from a phone device? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

No Experience I'm Basically An EXPERT!

25. On a scale of 1 to 5, what level of experience do you have with using ZOOM? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

No Experience I'm Basically An EXPERT!

26. On a scale of 1 to 5, where are you in your filmmaking journey? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

Ehh, I am a filmmaker RIGHT NOW!

27. On a scale of 1 to 5, how well do you work with others? *

Mark only one oval.

1 2 3 4 5

I pre ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ I LOVE working with others!

Program Commitment

28. Camp Sessions: Check all that apply. *

Check all that apply.

☐ I understand that I will be required to attend a writer's boot camp from Fri, Feb 28 - Sun, Mar 2, 2025 in Kissimmee, FL.

☐ I understand that if I am selected, this is a completely free experience and that I must commit to participating in the 16 week duration of the camp.

☐ I understand that I will be required to work collaboratively with a small team (production coach, video editor, and alumni coach) virtually for 7 Saturdays from 10am - 1:30pm ET and at an in-person weekend production retreat in LA.

☐ I understand that there will be an in-person production retreat and shoot weekend that may require travel, and I will be required to adhere to covid testing requirements.

☐ I understand that I will be required to attend all Saturday sessions in order to keep the technology devices provided to me by the camp.

☐ I understand that I will be required to be present and actively engaged with my camera on during all virtual sessions.

☐ I understand that I will be required to complete assignments and work on my film outside of the Saturday sessions.

☐ I understand that there will be a Premiere Weekend including a screening and awards showcase at conclusion of the program June 20 - 22, 2025 in Charlotte, NC that I must attend in-person.

☐ I understand that I will be required to attend all virtual Fireside Chat sessions taking place on Thursday nights at 7pm EST during the camp program.

TRAVEL COST

TEEN DIRECTORS

- FREE lodging and meals for all in-person events
- Transportation for LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend provided by camp
- Transportation NOT covered for Writer's Boot Camp and Premiere Weekend

PARENTS

- FREE lodging for all in-person events
- Transportation and meals are NOT covered by the camp for in-person events

COACHES & EDITORS

- FREE lodging and transportation for LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend
- Some meals covered during LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend
- Premiere Weekend attendance is optional and NOT covered by the camp

29. Travel Commitments: Check all that apply. *

Check all that apply.

☐ I understand that I will be responsible for my travel/transportation costs and the camp will cover my lodging and meal expenses for the writer's boot camp from Fri, Feb 28 - Sun, Mar 2, 2025 in Kissimmee, FL.

☐ I understand that my travel and lodging expenses for the in-person production retreat and shoot weekend in LA from Thur, May 16 - Tues, May 20, 2025 will be covered by the Black Girls Film Camp.

☐ I understand that I will be responsible for my travel/transportation costs and the camp will cover my lodging expenses for the Premiere Weekend from June 20 - 22, 2025 in Charlotte, NC

30. Participants are required to attend ALL SEVEN SATURDAY Sessions and THREE *
IN-PERSON Events for the Camp. Are you able to attend the sessions and events
listed below? (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Black Girls Film Camp Writer's Boot Camp: Fri, Feb 28 - Sun, Mar 2, 2025
- ☐ Session 1: Sat., March 8, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 2: Sat., March 22, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 3: Sat., April 5, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 4: Sat., April 19, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 5: Sat., May 3, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ LA Retreat & Shoot Weekend: Thurs, May 15 - Tues, May 20, 2025
- ☐ Session 6: Sat., May 31, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 7: Sat., June 14, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Black Girls Film Camp Premiere Weekend: Fri, June 20 - Sun, June 22, 2025

FimmakHER Questions

31. What is your dream career in the filmmaking industry? Please choose ONE. *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Editor
- ☐ Producer
- ☐ Actor
- ☐ Writer
- ☐ Director
- ☐ Other: _____

32. Share THREE WORDS that describe you. *

*Minimum 50 words, Maximum 100

33. Why would you like to be a Black Girl FilmmakHER? *

Story Idea and Film Pitch

Four Impact Areas



34. Which of the Four Impact Areas below does your story topic incorporate? *

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Body Ownership (Reproductive Rights, Body Image, Sexualization, Gender Identity)
- ☐ Mental Health Awareness (Mental Health Disorders, Addiction, Neurodiversity)
- ☐ Economic Mobility (Education System, Housing Disparities, Family Care, Access to Opportunities)
- ☐ Environmental Justice (Climate Change, Air & Water Pollution, Food Deserts)

35. What's your film title? *

36. Share with us a 1 minute video pitch of your story idea for your short film (short films are 3-6 minutes long). If you are unable to upload your video here, please email us a link to your video at info@blackgirlsfilmcamp.org. **A video pitch is REQUIRED in order for your application to be considered.**

Tips for Pitch:

- Identify your protagonist (all BGFC films center Black girls as subject)
- Identify the conflict and the goal of the protagonist
- Pitch should address these 4 questions:
 1. Who is your protagonist?
 2. What does the protagonist want or need?
 3. What is standing in their way (the conflict)?
 4. What is the resolve/conclusion?
- Specify genre of film (comedy, drama, sci-fi, short documentary, other) [**NOTE: The camp does not produce animated films at this time - only live-action short films and documentaries.*]
- Your film idea should be something that can be captured in a 3-6 minute short film (view BGFC website for examples)
- Be sure your story aligns with the issue you're wanting to address as mentioned in the previous question

Here is a sample pitch from 2024 BGFC Teen Director [Daria Strachan's film, "As You Are"](#).

Files submitted:

37. What do you plan to do with your short film after it is finished? *

Reference

Please provide a reference of an adult non-family member who you've worked or volunteered with and who can speak to your skills, work ethic, and/or passion in filmmaking. This can be a teacher, coach, or mentor.

38. Reference Name

39. Relationship to Applicant

40. Email

41. Phone Number

Interview Dates

42. Would you be available for a (1-Hour) ZOOM Interview on any of the dates below? (Check all that apply) *

Check all that apply.

☐ Monday, November 18, 2024 (5:00pm - 6:00pm EST OR 6:15pm - 7:15pm EST OR 7:30pm - 8:30pm EST)

☐ Tuesday, November 19, 2024 (Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST OR 8:15pm - 9:15pm EST)

☐ Wednesday, November 20, 2024 (Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm EST OR 7:15pm - 8:15pm EST)

☐ Thursday, November 21, 2024 (Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm EST OR 7:15pm - 8:15pm EST)

☐ Monday, November 25, 2024 (Time: 5:00pm - 6:00pm EST OR 6:15pm - 7:15pm EST OR 7:30pm - 8:30pm EST)

☐ Tuesday, November 26, 2024 (Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST OR 8:15pm - 9:15pm EST)

43. How did you hear about the Black Girls Film Camp?

Parent/Guardian Information

Please complete the below sections as parents/guardians of Teen Directors are required to participate as well.

44. Full Name *

45. Relationship to Child *

46. Email *

47. Phone *

Commitment and Availability

48. Why would this camp be a good experience for your child? *

49. Participants are required to attend ALL SEVEN SATURDAY Sessions and THREE *
IN-PERSON Events for the Camp. Is your child able to attend these sessions and
events listed below? (Check all that apply)

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Black Girls Film Camp Writer's Boot Camp: Fri, Feb 28 - Sun, Mar 2, 2025
- ☐ Session 1: Sat., March 8, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 2: Sat., March 22, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 3: Sat., April 5, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 4: Sat., April 19, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 5: Sat., May 3, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ LA Retreat & Shoot Weekend: Thurs, May 15 - Tues, May 20, 2025
- ☐ Session 6: Sat., May 31, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Session 7: Sat., June 14, 2025 - 10am - 1:30pm EST
- ☐ Black Girls Film Camp Premiere Weekend: Fri, June 20 - Sun, June 22, 2025

50. A Parent or Adult Guardian is required to attend interviews with their child. Would *
you be available for a ZOOM Interview with your child on any of the dates below?

Check all that apply.

- ☐ Monday, November 18, 2024 (5:00pm - 6:00pm EST OR 6:15pm - 7:15pm EST OR
7:30pm - 8:30pm EST)
- ☐ Tuesday, November 19, 2024 (Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST OR 8:15pm - 9:15pm EST)
- ☐ Wednesday, November 20, 2024 (Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm EST OR 7:15pm - 8:15pm
EST)
- ☐ Thursday, November 21, 2024 (Time: 6:00pm - 7:00pm EST OR 7:15pm - 8:15pm EST)
- ☐ Monday, November 25, 2024 (Time: 5:00pm - 6:00pm EST OR 6:15pm - 7:15pm EST OR
7:30pm - 8:30pm EST)
- ☐ Tuesday, November 26, 2024 (Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm EST OR 8:15pm - 9:15pm EST)

Camp Travel

TRAVEL COST

TEEN DIRECTORS

- FREE lodging and meals for all in-person events
- Transportation for LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend provided by camp
- Transportation NOT covered for Writer's Boot Camp and Premiere Weekend

PARENTS

- FREE lodging for all in-person events
- Transportation and meals are NOT covered by the camp for in-person events

COACHES & EDITORS

- FREE lodging and transportation for LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend
- Some meals covered during LA Retreat + Shoot Weekend
- Premiere Weekend attendance is optional and NOT covered by the camp

51. For youth under the age of 18, we require that a parent/guardian accompany the teen participant during the Weekend Production Retreat in LA, which will require travel. Will you or another adult/guardian be able to accompany the participant? *

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

52. Transportation and lodging expenses for all selected teen participants will be covered for LA Retreat and Shoot Weekend. Each teen will receive their own hotel room which will also accommodate each parent/guardian. However, parents/guardians traveling with the participants that are under 18 will be responsible for their own transportation expenses. *

Will you or the adult/guardian be able to cover your own transportation expenses for the Production Retreat and Shoot Weekend in LA?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes, I will be able to cover my own transportation expenses.
- ☐ No, I will not be able to cover my own transportation expenses.

53. Lodging expenses for all selected teen participants and one parent/guardian will be covered for the Writer's Boot Camp in Kissimmee, FL. However, parents/guardians traveling with the participants that are under 18 will be responsible for the cost of their own transportation and their child's transportation. *

Will you or the adult/guardian be able to cover your child's and your own transportation expenses for the Writer's Boot Camp?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes, I will be able to cover my transportation expenses and my child's transportation expenses.
- ☐ Yes, I will be able to cover my transportation expenses, but I will need help covering my child's transportation expenses.
- ☐ No, I will not be able to cover my transportation expenses or my child's transportation expenses.

54. Lodging expenses for all selected teen participants and one parent/guardian will be covered for Premiere Weekend in Charlotte, NC. However, parents/guardians traveling with the participants that are under 18 will be responsible for the cost of their own transportation and their child's transportation. *

Will you or the adult/guardian be able to cover your child's and your own transportation expenses for Premiere Weekend?

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ Yes, I will be able to cover my transportation expenses and my child's transportation expenses.
- ☐ Yes, I will be able to cover my transportation expenses, but I will need help covering my child's transportation expenses.
- ☐ No, I will not be able to cover my transportation expenses or my child's transportation expenses.

55. If transportation assistance is needed for your child, please select your household income range from the options below.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ \$20k - \$50k annually
- ☐ \$51k - \$75k annually
- ☐ \$76k - \$100k annually
- ☐ \$100k+ annually

56. If transportation assistance is needed for your child, please provide your household size.

Mark only one oval.

- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4
- ☐ 5+

57. All individuals traveling for the in-person LA Production Retreat + Shoot Weekend * and the Writer's Boot Camp will be required to adhere to covid testing requirements and protocols. Do you agree to adhere to the covid protocols as part of the safety travel policies?

Mark only one oval.

☐ Yes

☐ No

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