

## COMPOSER PLACEMENT GUIDELINES (MARCH 2025)

Credit Maker 2.0 is a high-calibre initiative that will support women or gender diverse composers to attain a career defining credit on a scripted production; to elevate their career trajectory; and, to bring change in female Head of Department (HoD) representation in the sector.

The placement will depend on the level at which the placee is brought into the production. If they are coming in to OBSERVE only or if they are also going to work with the composers on the score or if they are to be given specific work on the production by the composer.

In all cases the supervisor and mentor for the placee is the composer. The final choice to take on the placee sits with the composer in consultation with the production, funding body and the AGSC.

Funding for the placements will be broken into the following components:

1. Fee for the placee – to be paid to the production company or music company and agreed to by all involved and then paid either as a weekly wage or fee to the place for a specific period of time to be worked out by the composer and production;
2. Fee to the composer – to be paid to the contracted composer on the production regardless of their negotiated fee to complete the job. This fee is to ensure they are working to support and mentor the place;
3. Ancillary Costs – This is for the placee and would cover travel, accommodation, childcare and any other such experiences that are essential to enable the place to complete the placement; and
4. Production/Music Company Expenses – This may be to cover insurance and superannuation depending on how the placee is contracted for the role.

## DEFINITIONS

**Placee Composer:** The Composer who is placed on a project as a result of the program (to be eligible to be considered as a Placee see below)

**Supervising Composer:** The experienced composer who oversees the Placee Composer's tasks

## ELIGIBILITY

The AGSC (the Guild) has a current registration form for expressions of interest from female/female-identifying/gender-diverse composers. <https://agsc.org.au/credit-maker-2025/>.

### To be deemed eligible to potentially become a Placee Composer the applicant must:

- Identify as a woman or gender-diverse
- Have up to two (2) main credits (main credits being: Feature Film, Feature Documentary, TV Series or Mini-series). A composer may put forward an argument to be included on the Register if main credits have not been released theatrically or achieved distribution or been selected for major film festivals
- Be at a "mid-career" level rather than an emerging level of screen composition

For scenarios 1, 3 and 4 (see below) - if the project is proposed initially either by the Supervising Composer or the Production Company, the Supervising Composer of the project will be required to review the full registration list of Placee composers. A new Placee composer can be suggested by either the Production Company or the Supervising composer but this new Placee must meet the above eligibility requirements and fill out the form on the website here: <https://agsc.org.au/credit-maker-2025/>

## CREDITS

Suggested scenarios for the way the credits can be allocated:

1. The Placee receives a **Co-Composer** credit with the Supervising composer, working collaboratively across the series or feature film.
2. The Placee receives the full credit: **Composer** and is fully responsible for the score.  
The Placee Composer will engage a more established composer in the role of Supervising Composer. This Supervising Composer's credit could be 'Creative Music Consultant', 'Executive Music Director' or 'Executive Music Producer'. The role of this Supervising Composer will be to guarantee the work of the Placee Composer to be of a professional standard and meet all deadlines (Hans Zimmer approach).
3. A Placee can be brought onto a TV series that already has a composer or a music production company attached. The Placee would be offered one complete episode to achieve the credit **Composer**.

OR

One complete episode with the Credit **Co-Composer**.

4. That a Placee composer is brought into a project already allocated to a composer or team and works alongside this composer and receives a credit of **Additional Composer**, **Co-Composer** or **Composer** depending on what the Placee composer can negotiate in terms of tasks and credit, to be fairly discussed and attributed by both the Placee composer and the Supervising composer.

In regard to scenarios 1, 3 and 4, the Supervising Composer and Production Company should work in tandem to decide who an appropriate Placee Composer would be for the project. The Supervising Composer will have the ultimate say on who the Placee composer will be.

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

1. An opening date will be announced on the AGSC website and current Composers on the Placee registration list will be emailed.
2. The Placee composer will formally apply to the AGSC to be considered for the program once the project has been confirmed.
3. The applications will be received on a first in first served basis and assessors will be contracted to make the final decision.
4. The closing date will be announced on the website once a successful applicant is determined.

#### **ASSESSMENT PROCESS and CONSIDERATIONS**

Independent assessors (at least 2) are engaged by the AGSC to look at each application to ensure the application meets these guidelines and provide a recommendation to the AGSC Board.

The credit of **Composer** or **Co-Composer** is generally looked upon more favourably than an **Additional Composer** credit, but is also dependent on/or weighed up against the status of the production. The decision will be based on the Credit offered and how the project will benefit the Placee in terms of visibility and future opportunities.

Once the application is received, the assessors must first be briefed by AGSC's Executive Director, Kingston Anderson on the overall objective of Credit Maker and talk through these guidelines. The assessors must also verbally discuss the applications with each other. If consensus can't be reached an odd number of judges will be used and the decision will be made by a majority vote.