



# BOOTJAK PRODUCTION

## RESOURCE GUIDE

EMPOWERING INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS,  
ONE DEFINITION AT A TIME

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# RESOURCE GUIDE

In the fast-evolving world of independent filmmaking, access to the right resources can significantly alter the trajectory of a project. Platforms like Vimeo On Demand and Amazon Video Direct democratize the distribution process, allowing filmmakers to directly reach global audiences without the traditional gatekeepers. Tools such as Buffer and Canva streamline marketing efforts, ensuring that a film not only reaches its audience but also engages them effectively. Furthermore, legal resources like ASCAP and BMI are crucial for navigating the complexities of music rights, safeguarding against costly legal issues.

Community platforms like Stage 32 and IndieTalk provide invaluable support networks, offering advice, feedback, and collaboration opportunities. Meanwhile, educational resources like No Film School offer continual learning to keep filmmakers informed and innovative. Utilizing these diverse tools empowers filmmakers to manage their projects more efficiently, creatively, and successfully, turning visionary ideas into accessible cinematic experiences. This comprehensive approach is essential for anyone looking to make a mark in the competitive landscape of indie filmmaking.

## Platforms for Distribution

1. **Vimeo On Demand:** Allows filmmakers to directly sell or rent their movies to audiences worldwide, providing filmmakers with 90% of the revenue after transaction costs. Visit [Vimeo On Demand](#)
2. **Amazon Video Direct:** Enables creators to make their movies available to Amazon Prime members globally or for rent and purchase, integrating seamlessly into Amazon's vast ecosystem. [Visit Amazon Video Direct](#)
3. **iTunes:** Provides a global platform for movie sales and rentals, offering filmmakers a chance to distribute their work on one of the most popular media platforms in the world. [Visit iTunes](#)
4. **Google Play:** Allows filmmakers to sell their movies on a platform accessible to users worldwide, especially targeting Android users. [Visit Google Play](#)
5. **YouTube Premium:** Provides an opportunity for filmmakers to earn revenue through a subscription service, where subscribers can access films without ads. [Visit YouTube Premium](#)
6. **Netflix (Direct Submission):** Netflix accepts direct submissions through its portal, although they are selective, offering a massive audience if accepted. Visit [Netflix](#)
7. **Filmhub:** Streamlines the process of listing and selling films to global streaming services, offering a non-exclusive agreement that keeps filmmakers in control. [Visit Filmhub](#)
8. **Indie Rights:** A digital distribution company specializing in independent films, offering filmmakers distribution and marketing services across multiple platforms. [Visit Indie Rights](#)
9. **Tubi:** A free streaming service that features independent films supported by ads, providing filmmakers an avenue for monetization. [Visit Tubi](#)
10. **Mubi:** Focuses on curated, art-house films, offering a niche platform for filmmakers looking to reach a specific audience of cinephiles. [Visit Mubi](#)

## Marketing and Promotion Tools

11. **Buffer:** Simplifies social media management, allowing filmmakers to schedule posts, analyze performance, and manage all their accounts in one place. [Visit Buffer](#)
12. **Hootsuite:** Helps filmmakers manage multiple social media channels at once, providing tools to schedule posts, track engagement, and monitor mentions. [Visit Hootsuite](#)
13. **Mailchimp:** Offers email marketing services that help filmmakers manage subscribers, send emails, and track results with advanced analytics. [Visit Mailchimp](#)
14. **Canva:** An easy-to-use design tool that helps filmmakers create professional-looking promotional materials, including posters, social media graphics, and more. [Visit Canva](#)
15. **Google Ads:** Enables filmmakers to reach potential viewers through targeted ads on Google's search engine and its vast network. [Visit Google Ads](#)

## Film Festivals and Submission Platforms

16. **FilmFreeway:** The world's #1 way to discover and submit to film festivals and creative contests, offering one-click submissions. [Visit FilmFreeway](#)
17. **Withoutabox:** Was previously a popular resource for submitting to film festivals; alternatives like FilmFreeway now provide similar services.
18. **Festhome:** An international platform that connects filmmakers with festivals, offering digital submissions to a wide array of competitions. [Visit Festhome](#)
19. **ShortFilmWindow:** Designed for short film distribution, this platform facilitates exposure through curated showcases online. [Visit ShortFilmWindow](#)

## Legal and Licensing Resources

20. **Creative Commons:** Provides a variety of licensing options that filmmakers can use to protect and share their work according to their preferences. [Visit Creative Commons](#)
21. **ASCAP:** Assists filmmakers in managing the rights to incorporate music into their films, offering a wide range of music licensing options. [Visit ASCAP](#)
22. **BMI:** Another major music rights organization, helping filmmakers navigate the complexities of music rights and licensing. [Visit BMI](#)

## Community and Networking

23. **Stage 32:** A social network tailored for creative professionals in the film, television, and theater industries, offering networking opportunities, job listings, and educational resources. [Visit Stage 32](#)
24. **IndieTalk:** An active forum where indie filmmakers can discuss, get feedback, and share insights on all aspects of film production. [Visit IndieTalk](#)
25. **Reddit (r/Filmmakers):** A vibrant subreddit where filmmakers share experiences, ask questions, and find community support. [Visit Reddit Filmmakers](#)

## Crowdfunding Platforms

26. **Kickstarter:** A popular platform where filmmakers can fund new projects by receiving pledges from supporters in exchange for rewards. [Visit Kickstarter](#)
27. **Indiegogo:** Offers flexible crowdfunding campaigns for a variety of creative projects, including independent films. [Visit Indiegogo](#)
28. **Seed&Spark:** Specifically focused on supporting independent filmmakers through crowdfunding, audience building, and distribution. [Visit Seed&Spark](#)

## Educational Resources

29. **No Film School:** A comprehensive resource that provides articles, podcasts, and forums to help filmmakers learn about the craft and business without the cost of film school. [Visit No Film School](#)
30. **The Independent:** Delivers articles, reviews, and interviews focused on the needs of independent filmmakers. [Visit The Independent](#)

These resources offer crucial support across various aspects of film production and distribution, helping indie filmmakers navigate their journey from concept to viewer.

**Support groups, friends groups, and associations play a vital role in the indie film community, particularly for self-distribution. They offer resources, networking opportunities, advice, and moral support that can be crucial for a filmmaker navigating the complexities of distribution. Here are 30 such organizations and groups that can help indie filmmakers with self-distribution:**

1. **Sundance Institute** - Offers labs, funding, and showcasing opportunities for independent filmmakers. [Sundance Institute](#)
2. **IFP (Independent Filmmaker Project)** - Provides mentorship, workshops, and resources for independent filmmakers. [IFP](#)
3. **Film Independent** - Known for the Spirit Awards, this organization offers filmmaker labs, grants, and more. [Film Independent](#)
4. **Women in Film** - Offers support and networking opportunities specifically for women filmmakers. [Women in Film](#)
5. **NALIP (National Association of Latino Independent Producers)** - Dedicated to supporting Latino content creators and diverse voices in the film and media industries. [NALIP](#)
6. **The D-Word** - An online community for documentary filmmakers worldwide. [The D-Word](#)
7. **No Film School** - An online community offering extensive resources and information. [No Film School](#)
8. **Stage 32** - A social network specifically for people in the entertainment industry, including film, television, and theater. [Stage 32](#)
9. **IndieTalk** - An online forum for independent filmmakers. [IndieTalk](#)
10. **Shooting People** - A network of independent filmmakers, helping members collaborate and share resources. [Shooting People](#)
11. **Cineaste** - A filmmakers' forum that also publishes a quarterly magazine. [Cineaste](#)
12. **British Film Institute (BFI)** - Provides funding, educational resources, and support for UK filmmakers. [British Film Institute](#)
13. **Cinema Tropical** - A non-profit dedicated to promoting Latin American cinema in the United States. [Cinema Tropical](#)
14. **Black Filmmaker Magazine** - A platform for Black filmmakers to share their work and find support. [Black Filmmaker Magazine](#)

15. **Raindance** - Offers training, networking opportunities, and support for independent filmmakers. [Raindance](#)
16. **The Film Collaborative** - A non-profit committed to distribution education and facilitation of independent film. [The Film Collaborative](#)
17. **Docs In Progress** - Provides support to documentary filmmakers. [Docs In Progress](#)
18. **Seed&Spark** - Offers crowdfunding, education, and distribution guidance specifically for filmmakers. [Seed&Spark](#)
19. **Creative Capital** - Supports innovative and adventurous artists across the country through funding, counsel, and career development services. [Creative Capital](#)
20. **The Independent Filmmaker's Guide** - Provides resources and information for self-distributing filmmakers. [The Independent Filmmaker's Guide](#)
21. **American Film Institute (AFI)** - Offers educational programs and supports filmmakers. [American Film Institute](#)
22. **European Documentary Network** - Supports documentary filmmakers with networking opportunities, workshops, and funding advice. [European Documentary Network](#)
23. **Film Fatales** - Supports women filmmakers through workshops, panels, and peer mentoring. [Film Fatales](#)
24. **Outfest** - Supports LGBTQ filmmakers through educational and networking opportunities. [Outfest](#)
25. **CAAM (Center for Asian American Media)** - Dedicated to presenting stories that convey the richness and diversity of Asian American experiences. [CAAM](#)
26. **Visual Communications** - Aids Asian Pacific American filmmakers with their projects. [Visual Communications](#)
27. **Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF)** - Offers filmmaker development programs and networking opportunities. [TIFF](#)
28. **Tribeca Film Institute** - Provides filmmakers with grants, professional development, and resources. [Tribeca Film Institute](#)
29. **IDA (International Documentary Association)** - Offers resources, networking, and support for documentary filmmakers. [IDA](#)
30. **NewFilmmakers Los Angeles (NFMLA)** - An organization designed to showcase innovative works by emerging filmmakers. [NFMLA](#)



**Funding an indie film project can be one of the most challenging aspects of the filmmaking process. Here are 15 funding sources and venture capital funds that are known to support indie filmmakers, providing crucial financial backing and support:**

Sundance Institute Grants: Offers various grants throughout the year for filmmakers at different stages of their projects, including development, production, and post-production. Sundance Institute

National Endowment for the Arts (NEA): Provides grants to artists and organizations, including filmmakers, to help support projects that foster creativity and public engagement in the arts. National Endowment for the Arts

Tribeca Film Institute: Offers funding as well as professional guidance to individual filmmakers globally through its various funding initiatives. Tribeca Film Institute

The Film Fund: Provides funding and resources to independent filmmakers who need assistance with financing their projects. The Film Fund

Bertha BRITDOC Documentary Journalism Fund: A fund that offers grants to projects at the intersection of documentary and investigative journalism. BRITDOC

The Gotham Film & Media Institute (formerly IFP): Offers various programs that include direct funding and year-round support for all stages of the filmmaking process. The Gotham Film & Media Institute

Chicken & Egg Pictures: Supports women nonfiction filmmakers whose artful and innovative storytelling catalyzes social change. Chicken & Egg Pictures

Cinereach: Provides grants and fellowships to unique film projects and is known for supporting independent filmmakers at every stage of their project. Cinereach

Film Independent Grants: Offers several grants to independent filmmakers each year for projects in various stages of production and post-production. Film Independent

Panavision's New Filmmaker Program: Provides camera packages to student and indie filmmakers for their thesis productions and debut feature films. Panavision's New Filmmaker Program

SFFILM Rainin Grant: Supports films that address social justice themes through the lens of storytelling with significant economic or professional impact. SFFILM Rainin Grant

Vision Maker Media Grants: Supports Native American and Alaska Native media arts projects and encourages innovative uses of new media and technology. Vision Maker Media

The Henson Foundation Grant: Provides funding for the creation and development of innovative puppetry in live performance and film. The Henson Foundation

The Jerome Foundation's Film and Video Grant Program: Supports emerging filmmakers whose projects reflect new voices and new perspectives. The Jerome Foundation

Creative Capital: Supports innovative and adventurous artists across the United States through funding, counsel, gatherings, and career development services. Creative Capital

These funding sources provide essential financial support and resources, helping to bring diverse and innovative indie film projects to fruition. Each has its own criteria and focus, offering a range of opportunities for filmmakers to find the right kind of support for their projects.