

# ANIMATION UNDERGRADUATE PLACEMENT SCHEME CANDIDATE INFORMATION PACK MAY 2025

Northern Ireland Screen is the screen agency for Northern Ireland. We are committed to maximising the economic, cultural and educational value of the screen industries for the benefit of Northern Ireland. Our mission is to accelerate the development of a dynamic and sustainable screen industry and culture in Northern Ireland.

Our 3 economic, cultural and educational objectives are for:

- 1. Northern Ireland to have the strongest screen industry outside of London in the UK and Ireland;
- 2. Ensure the industry supports vibrant and diverse cultural voices that will be recognised and celebrated equally at home and abroad;
- 3. Mainstream across Northern Ireland the most successful screen and digital technologies education provision in Europe.

Northern Ireland Screen is a company limited by guarantee, currently employing 45 people and we are governed by a Board of thirteen directors. The Chairman is Sir David Sterling and Sir Kenneth Branagh is Honorary President.

#### ANIMATION UNDERGRADUATE PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Northern Ireland Screen is partnering with a range of studios working in Northern Ireland's animation sector to offer Undergraduate Placements for students currently studying animation related courses and seeking work experience.

The Animation Undergraduate Placements are for 6-months, full time and paid (Real Living Wage), with the opportunity to work on some of the most exciting animation projects in Northern Ireland.

**The Animation Undergraduate Placements** are open to students who are currently in full-time education who are seeking a work placement year as part of their college/university course. There are **2** placement opportunities available with local animation companies. Applicants can apply for multiple placements if they meet the essential criteria.



## Who is eligible to apply?

- 1. Applicants must be in full time education at a FE/HE Institution and are seeking a placement for their work experience year.
- 2. Applicants must be planning to return to full-time education at the end of the placement to complete their course.
- 3. Applicants must be resident within Northern Ireland for the duration of the 6-month placement.
- 4. Applicants must be eligible to work in the UK.
- 5. Applicants must demonstrate they are studying a course which is relevant to the Animation Sector for example: Animation; Computer Animation; Digital Art & Animation; Games, Animation & VFX Skills; etc..
- \* If you cannot answer YES to these questions, please do not apply. Ineligible applications will be automatically discarded.\*

\*For the avoidance of doubt, Northern Ireland needs to be your primary residence for tax purposes. Applicants residing in Northern Ireland will take priority.

Interviews will take place in June and July 2025 and placements will commence on various dates from July 2025 depending on the companies' work schedule requirements.

# How do I apply?

To apply to the **Animation Undergraduate Placement Scheme** applicants must submit the following via the online application form where you will be asked to complete:

- Employment history;
- Educational background;
- Answer the eligibility questions and provide a link to an online portfolio or reel.
- Details of two referees. These can be educational, professional or personal references.

<sup>\*</sup> Please include a link to your portfolio in your application\*



You can access our online application system via our <u>online portal</u>. Please note, that if this is your first time applying for a role via our online application system, you will be prompted to create a profile. Once registered, the system will retain your information for any future roles you apply for.

# How do I obtain application details?

It is preferable that all applications are completed via our <u>online portal</u>. However, should you require an application form in an alternative format, please contact Human Resources via email: <u>Hr@northernirelandscreen.co.uk</u> or on 02890232444. CVs will not be accepted.

The deadline for applications is 13:00 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025. Please note under no circumstances will late applications be considered.

# Please see below for further clarification on each individual placement:

- 1. Flickerpix Trainee Junior Designer
- 2. Jam Media Trainee Production Assistant



#### FLICKERPIX – TRAINEE JUNIOR DESIGNER

Flickerpix has a proven track record in the production of high quality animated content, placing particular emphasis on creating expressive, memorable characters with universal appeal.

We have an international reach with our short films and programs, showcasing in over 70 countries and a client list which includes Channel 4, RTE, BBDO, SKY, Hat Trick, Discovery Channel, Sesame Workshop USA and BBC to name a few.

We have produced films such as the IFTA award-winning MACROPOLIS, which has been screened in over 170 film festivals to date and won 16 awards and our multi-award winning short films DA HUMBUG, MILO'S MELTDOWN and ONE TRACK MIND. We have had recent success with our CGI series HOP N' ZIP which has amassed 1.8 million online views. Our animation styles are tailored to the audience we address and we pride ourselves on delivering strong narratives and appealing animated characters.

In addition to our character animation, we have produced animated sequences for over 30 educational and factual programmes to date, including the BAFTA nominated 'Living With Alcohol' for CBBC.

You can find out more about Flickerpix as well as view our catalogue of animated content on our website... <a href="https://www.flickerpix.com">www.flickerpix.com</a>

Job Title: Trainee Junior Designer

Contract Length: 6 months

**Start Date:** August 2025

**Hours:** 37.5hrs per week

**Salary:** Real Living Wage (currently £12.60 per hour)

# Job Description:

We're offering a 6-month placement for an undergraduate student to join our design department, working on exciting projects including our upcoming 2D animated series, Luna. This is a fantastic opportunity for a student who's passionate about animation and visual storytelling to gain real industry experience, develop their skills, and learn from a supportive and collaborative team.



# What you'll do:

- Support the design team in creating characters, props, environments and other visual assets
- Assist with preparing artwork for animation
- Contribute to visual development
- Learn about the animation design pipeline in a studio setting.

#### **Essential Criteria:**

- Proficiency in Adobe Creative Suite particularly Photoshop and Illustrator
- Ability to interpret and work to a creative brief, delivering work within agreed timeframes
- Strong team player with excellent collaboration skills

## **Desirable Criteria:**

- Understanding of the design pipeline for animated series (training will be provided)
- A strong portfolio showcasing a range of design work, ideally with a focus on animation



#### JAM MEDIA – TRAINEE PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

JAM Media, with operations in both Ireland and the United Kingdom, is one of the leading creators and producers of multi-award winning animated and live action content for the children's and preschool audience. We pride ourselves on delivering high quality, innovative, story-driven brands across multiple platforms based around engaging characters with humour at its heart.

**Job Title:** Trainee Production Assistant

Contract Length: 6 months

**Start Date:** July/August 2025

Hours: 37.5hrs per week

Salary: Real Living Wage (currently £12.60 per hour)

#### **Job Description:**

The Trainee Production Assistant will work closely with the production management team and will work with teams across all aspects of the animation pipeline. Tasks will include creating and maintaining asset databases and trackers, assisting with edits, scheduling and attending team meetings and assisting IT with pipeline.

#### **Essential Criteria:**

- Understand the CGI animation process
- Ability to work within a production pipeline and deadline
- Attention to detail, problem solving ability and taking direction in order to work in a collaborative environment
- Excellent IT skills

#### **Desirable Criteria:**

Edit experience



#### **Selection Process**

Northern Ireland Screen's aim is to appoint the best person to each vacant post. Recruitment and selection will be conducted to ensure equality of opportunity and selection will only be made on the basis of merit.

Northern Ireland Screen will follow best practice in recruitment and selection procedure and will ensure that everyone involved in the selection can apply the procedure effectively, consistently and fairly. As far as possible the selection panel will be balanced in terms of gender, community background, etc.

Selection will be based solely on merit measured against clear, precise criteria based on the abilities, experience, qualifications and qualities required for the post. The nature and level of these requirements will be justifiable and appropriate to the job. The selection criteria will be applied fairly and consistently when short-listing, at interview and throughout the selection process.

All candidates will be given an equal chance to demonstrate their abilities and the same standards will be applied to all. As far as possible, all interviews will be held on the same day or completed on subsequent days. Northern Ireland Screen will try to accommodate applicants who request alternative dates or times for interviews but this may not always be possible. Any specific needs relating to access will be accommodated.

The assessments and decisions at the short-listing, interviewing and selection stages will be properly recorded and retained for between 6 months to one year after notifying unsuccessful applicants. Confidentiality will be assured at every stage of the recruitment and selection process. Members of selection panels will not discuss applicants outside panel meetings and all information on applicants will be kept secure and confidential.

The essential criteria for the post will be used to shortlist candidates for interview and it is important that all candidates address each of the criteria clearly on the application form giving specific, personal examples where appropriate. If there are a large number of candidates who satisfy the essential criteria, Northern Ireland Screen reserves the right to take the desirable criteria into consideration in order to reduce the number of candidates invited to interview.

# Please let us know if you require any special arrangements throughout the recruitment process.

We are an equal opportunities employer and we welcome applications from all suitably qualified persons regardless of their sex; religious or similar philosophical belief; political opinion; race; age; sexual orientation; or, whether they are married or are in a civil partnership; or, whether they are disabled; or whether they have undergone, are undergoing or intend to undergo gender reassignment.



#### **Guaranteed Interview Scheme**

As part of our commitment to the employment of disabled people, we operate a Guaranteed Interview Scheme (GIS). The GIS does not guarantee a job. However, its objective is to ensure a guaranteed number of disabled applicants, who meet the minimum essential criteria for the role they have applied for, are offered an interview.