

THIRD EDITION OF RED SEA LODGE NOW OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia – 5th January 2022: The Red Sea Lodge in its third edition is now open for submissions from teams of Saudi and Arab directors, producers, and scriptwriters starting from 6th January until 11th of February 2022. The Red Sea Lodge nurtures the next generation of filmmakers from Saudi Arabia and the Arab world, in partnership with TorinoFilmLab. After a successful second edition, the Red Sea Lodge returns in 2022 bigger and better than ever, eager to welcome all new submissions to hone their ambitions and support in the development of Saudi and Arab film projects.

Transforming projects from ideas to reality, the Red Sea Lodge offers a ten month creative and professional training program covering five workshops that takes participants through every step of the film creation process, with guidance and mentorship from industry professionals, tutors, and speakers from around the world with varying backgrounds in the film industry. For filmmakers on the cusp of their big break, the Red Sea Lodge, in partnership with TorinoFilmLab, selects projects for creative and professional mentorship, development, and next-level industry opportunities.

Jumana Zahid, Red Sea Lodge Manager said, “We are so excited to see the raw talent and ingenuity that we will uncover with the third edition of the Red Sea Lodge. The intensive training program was created to mould a concept into a live piece of art on the cinema screen. We want to help aspiring Saudi and Arab filmmakers inspire others through the stories they tell in their films and leave their mark on the film industry locally and internationally. Our aim is to see the Saudi film industry flourish by investing in our talents and giving them the tools and guidance they need to excel.”

The program is open to teams from Saudi Arabia and the Arab world, working on a feature film project at any stage of development. A maximum of twelve project teams will be selected, at least six of which will be Saudi teams, with the remainder from across the Arab world. In 2022, the program includes five workshops, three of which will be online and the other two will take place in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. The workshops will be conducted in English, but Arabic translation will be available for those who require it. Furthermore, scripts are not mandatory for submissions as the program helps with script development. Alongside ongoing script development sessions, the program features a producers’ coaching program and covers professional development, production, financing, sales, and marketing. During the workshop participants will also have the opportunity to work with international experts in the fields of directing, cinematography, sound editing, post-production, and sales.

Following the intensive development process and meetings with industry professionals, teams will have the opportunity to pitch their projects to investors and financiers at the festival’s project market, the Red Sea Souk. The teams will also compete for the annual Red Sea Lodge Production Awards, where two winning projects will be awarded a grant of \$100,000 each. The selected winners will also receive an Arab Premiere for their film at the next Red Sea International Film Festival.

مهرجان البحر الأحمر السينمائي الدولي
RED SEA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Every year, the Red Sea Lodge turns ambitious emerging filmmakers into the next big thing. The Red Sea Lodge, in cooperation with TorinoFilmLab, seeks to empower cinematic talents, preparing them to launch and succeed in the world of cinema.

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Editors Notes:

Red Sea International Film Festival

The Red Sea International Film Festival is set to bring the best in Arab and World Cinema to the UNESCO world heritage site of Jeddah Old Town.

The Festival will showcase a compelling slate of new and diverse films, alongside a retrospective programme celebrating the masters of cinema as well as introducing audiences to exciting new voices from the region and beyond. The Festival will provide a platform for Arab filmmakers and industry professionals from around the world to connect, host feature and short film competitions, and present a series of events, masterclasses, and workshops to support emerging talent.

About MBC GROUP:

MBC GROUP is the largest and leading media company in the Middle East & North Africa region that enriches people's lives through information, interaction, and entertainment. In 2002, nearly a decade after the launch of MBC1 in London, in 1991, **MBC GROUP** moved its headquarters to Dubai Media City, United Arab Emirates.

Today, **MBC GROUP** includes over 17 leading TV channels: **MBC1** (general family entertainment); **MBC2 & MBC MAX** (24-hour western movies); **MBC3** (children's edutainment with a mix of both local productions and western acquisitions); **MBC4** (entertainment for young families with a female-focus); **MBC ACTION** (an indigenous adrenaline-packed channel targeting young males with local and homegrown productions); **MBC VARIETY** (Western films and general entertainment with uninterrupted broadcasting); **MBC DRAMA** (24/7 Arabic drama) & **MBC+ DRAMA** (a joint pay-TV channel between MBC and OSN); **MBC PERSIA** (general family entertainment dubbed and subtitled in Farsi); **WANASAH** (24-hour Arabic music channel); **MBC MASR & MBC MASR2** (general family entertainment geared towards the Egyptian family); **MBC BOLLYWOOD** (delivering the freshest in Bollywood content geared towards the region via an Arabized interface); **MBC USA** (on "Dish Network" in the US); **MBC IRAQ** (a premium channel aimed at the entire Iraqi family), **MBC5** (new satellite channel dedicated to the Maghreb); all of them benefit from **MBC STUDIOS** which produces the region's most compelling premium content for cinema, television and on-demand platforms. **MBC GROUP** also includes two FM radio stations: **MBC FM** (Gulf music) and **Panorama FM** (contemporary Arabic hit music).

Furthermore, part of **MBC GROUP** is **Shahid** and its premium subscription-based service **Shahid VIP**, the world's leading Arabic streaming platform, home to highly rated original productions from the Arab world, a wide range of exclusive movies and premieres, as well as the top watched live Arab TV channels.

About Majid Al Futtaim

مهرجان البحر الأحمر السينمائي الدولي RED SEA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Founded in 1992, Majid Al Futtaim is the leading shopping mall, communities, retail and leisure pioneer across the Middle East, Africa and Asia.

A remarkable business success story, Majid Al Futtaim started from one man's vision to transform the face of shopping, entertainment and leisure to 'create great moments for everyone, every day'. It has since grown into one of the United Arab Emirates' most respected and successful businesses spanning 17 international markets, employing more than 43,000 people, and obtaining the highest credit rating (BBB) among privately held corporates in the region.

Majid Al Futtaim owns and operates 29 shopping malls, 13 hotels and four mixed-use communities, with further developments underway in the region. The shopping malls portfolio includes Mall of the Emirates, Mall of Egypt, Mall of Oman, City Centre malls, My City Centre neighborhood centers, and five community malls which are in joint venture with the Government of Sharjah. The Company is the exclusive franchisee for Carrefour in over 30 markets across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, operating a portfolio of more than 375 outlets including City+, the region's first checkout-free store, and an online store.

Majid Al Futtaim operates more than 600 VOX Cinemas screens as well as a portfolio of world-class leisure and entertainment experiences across the region including Ski Dubai, Ski Egypt, Dreamscape, Magic Planet, Little Explorers and iFLY Dubai. The Company is parent to a Fashion, Home and Specialty retail business representing international brands such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Hollister, AllSaints, lululemon athletica, Crate & Barrel, Maisons du Monde, LEGO and THAT, a Majid Al Futtaim fashion concept store and app. In addition, Majid Al Futtaim operates Enova, a facility and energy management company, through a joint venture operation with Veolia, a global leader in optimized environment resource management.

www.majidalfuttaim.com

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About Saudi Arabian Airlines (SAUDIA):

Saudi Arabian Airlines (SAUDIA) is the national flag carrier of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Established in 1945, the company is one of the Middle East's largest airlines.

SAUDIA is a member of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Arab Air Carriers Organization (AAO). It has been one of the 19 member airlines of the SkyTeam alliance since 2012.

SAUDIA has received many prestigious industry awards and recognitions. Most recently, it was ranked a Global Five-Star Major Airline by the Airline Passenger Experience Association (APEX) and the carrier was awarded the Diamond status by APEX Health Safety powered by SimpliFlying.

For further information on Saudi Arabian Airlines, please visit www.saudia.com

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