

MAINE FILM OFFICE

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Maine Film Office Announces Accomplishments and Looks Ahead at 2020

AUGUSTA, Maine – The recently submitted Maine Attraction Film Incentive Plan Annual Report from the Maine Film Office (MFO) illustrates that 2019 was a profitable year for Maine’s film industry and that production companies are drawn to the state in large part due to Maine’s film-friendly reputation.

In 2019, six productions applied for and received a Maine Media Production Certificate through the Maine Attraction Film Incentive Plan. The plan’s credit and reimbursements accounted for \$160,229 paid to productions, while the anticipated amount of visual media production expenses generated in Maine will be more than \$3,380,000.

“The return on investment for the program in 2019 was \$21.10 for every \$1 of investment in the program,” said MFO Director Karen Carberry Warhola. “As part of MFO’s strategy to grow Maine’s economy through increased film production, last year was a success.”

The Maine Film Office’s outreach efforts in 2019 included contact with visual media productions in the United States, England, Scotland, Wales, Quebec, Ottawa and Vancouver.

In total, MFO registered 55 productions with filming spread over all 16 Maine counties. The total anticipated direct spend of these productions is estimated at \$4,382,217.

Highlights of the productions registered in Maine in 2019 include:

- Summer Sunday - Indie Scripted Feature Film
- Maine Cabin Masters - DIY Network TV Series, Season 4
- Heightened - Indie Scripted Feature Film
- Tirdy Works - Turner Broadcasting TV Series, Season 1
- America’s Hidden Stories - Smithsonian Channel TV Series, Season 2
- Hunt for Eagle - Smithsonian Channel Documentary

In 2020, MFO is adding the new “Local Film News” page to their website, filminmaine.com. Additional updates to the site and expanded information have started. The office is also assisting a new indie film being shot in Maine.

MFO will be represented at the South by Southwest Film Festival, Conference and Trade Show, a highly acclaimed U.S. film festival taking place in March, as well as the Association of Film Commissioners

International (AFCI) Week taking place late March – early April. AFCI Week is an opportunity to connect with high-level film industry decision makers in Los Angeles.

“We’ve hit the ground running in 2020 and it promises to be a productive year for the Maine Film Office,” added Carberry Warhola.

MFO markets Maine as a filming location for all forms of production, including feature films, television, digital media and catalog shoots. MFO also aids productions by assisting with finding support services and resources within Maine, offering incentives, and working with communities to prepare them for productions of all types and sizes.

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About the Maine Film Office: A division within the Maine Office of Tourism at the Department of Economic & Community Development, the Maine Film Office markets Maine as a filming location and executes a strategy to increase production in Maine to help grow Maine’s economy. It is the official liaison between the film industry, state agencies and production companies. For more information, go to FilmInMaine.com.