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California Film Commission NEWSLETTER



www.film.ca.gov

FALL 2017

TAX CREDIT PROGRAM 2.0 UPDATE

Latest Progress Report Shows Encouraging Long-Term Results

The latest annual Progress Report on California's expanded Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0 shows significant long-term gains in below-the-line employment, as well as a growing volume of production in regions outside the Los Angeles 30-Mile Zone.

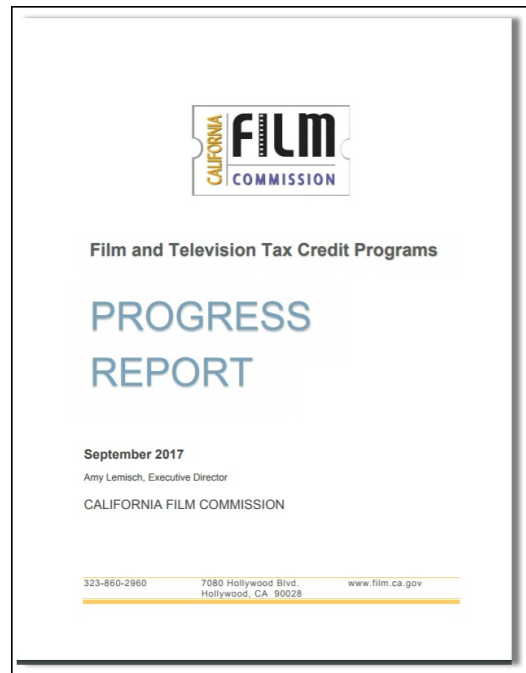


In its first two years, Program 2.0 attracted or retained more than 100 film and television projects generating an estimated \$3.7 billion in direct in-state spending, including \$1.4 billion in below-the-line wages.

Independent third-party data from the major guilds and unions affirms the good news regarding employment. Members covered under the Motion Picture Industry Pension & Health Plans have benefitted from a sustained 12 percent increase in hours worked since Program 2.0 went into effect.

"Last year's positive short-term results for Program 2.0 have evolved into sustained and very encouraging long-term results in this year's report," said CFC Executive Director Amy Lemisch. "The expanded tax credit program is working as intended and having a real impact."

[See the full 38-page report.](#)



DID YOU KNOW

More Tax Credit Video Tutorials Added to CFC Website

The CFC produces an ongoing series of step-by-step tutorials on various aspects of the tax credit program. Topics include:

- Program orientation
- Application tips and procedures
- Budget tagging best practices

All the videos, along with other helpful resources, are available online at <http://film.ca.gov/tax-credit/faqs/>.



CFC State Partners Nominated for 23rd Annual COLAs



December 17 Ceremony to Honor Industry Pros and Public Employees Who Support In-State Production

Two esteemed members of the CFC support team - Deputy State Fire Marshal Ramiro Rodriguez and Caltrans Film Liaison Roger San Juan - have been named finalists for the 23rd California On-Location Awards (COLAs), which will be presented Sunday, December 17th at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

Both are nominated in the State Public Employee Category for their dedication, collaborative spirit and willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty to solve problems.

The COLAs recognize location managers and public employees who help facilitate on-location production across the Golden State. This year's awards will be presented amid a spirit of rising optimism as the state's Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0 helps reaffirm California's status as the world's production capital. More than 500 attendees are expected at this year's invitation-only awards ceremony.



COLA Nominees: Deputy State Fire Marshal Ramiro Rodriguez (left) and Caltrans Film Liaison Roger San Juan

The awards program is produced by Film Liaisons in California Statewide (FLICS), a professional organization of film offices from across California that promote and facilitate in-state filming.

The CFC congratulates all of this year's COLA nominees.

For more information, visit www.californiaonlocationawards.com.

Michael Nyman Elected CFC Board Chair

The California Film Commission's Board of Directors has elected Michael Nyman, chairman and CEO of entertainment PR firm PMK*BNC, to serve as CFC chair for the 2018 term. He will replace long-time Chair Steve Dayan of Teamsters Local 399, who will remain on the board.

Nyman was appointed to serve on the CFC board in 2014 by Governor Jerry Brown. He is regarded as an authority when it comes to bridging the worlds of entertainment and brands. Highlights of his nearly 30-year career include leading the 2009 merger of his prior firm - Bragman Nyman Cafarelli (BNC) with entertainment publicity powerhouse PMK. Today, he is responsible for operating the 250-person firm serving a roster of more than 800 entertainment and Fortune 500 clients.



CFC 2018 Board Chair Michael Nyman

Other changes to the Film Commission's Board include the election of IATSE 2nd International Vice President and Local 80 Business Manager Thom Davis as vice chair, and DeKoven Entertainment President Lindy DeKoven as secretary.

More Session Videos Added for 2017 Film in California Conference

For those who couldn't attend this year's Film in California Conference (or were there, but didn't get to check out all the sessions) we're pleased to share videos of the four panels, as well as the presentation of the California Golden Slate Award to Shondaland's Betsy Beers. Enjoy!



- ["The Making of 'This is Us" Panel](#) (note audio glitch at beginning of video)
- ["Content Production & Distribution in the Digital Age" Panel](#)
- ["Film Financing for Independents" Panel](#)
- ["Sustainability: The Greening of Hollywood" Panel](#)
- [Jason George Presenting Betsy Beers with the California Golden Slate Award](#)



Jason George and Betsy Beers

Also see photos from this year's conference on [Flickr](#).

State Film/TV Fire Safety Officer (FSO) Training Course in the Spotlight



Individuals from across California and around the nation were in Burbank October 10-12 for the state's latest Fire Safety Officer Training Course. The FSO training program is designed for fire prevention, suppression and investigation officers, special effects technicians, stunt coordinators, location managers, risk managers and others who interact with the entertainment industry in a safety capacity.

For more than two decades, this one-of-a-kind program has provided students with a basic knowledge of film production fire safety, both on the studio lot and location filming. The training incorporates live pyrotechnic special effects and stunt demonstrations, special guest speakers, product orientation and videos from different films.

The course is taught four times each year at various locations. It saves lives and boosts California's competitive advantage as a production locale. The recent course in Burbank scored some great media coverage.

- [KABC-TV: "Class teaches pyrotechnic safety to movie business workers"](#)
- [KTLA-TV: "Fire safety officers help film crews with pyrotechnics safety"](#)

Visit CFC at AFM

Team members from the California Film Commission, FilmL.A. and several regional film offices from across the state will be available to answer questions and make connections at the [American Film Market \(AFM\) Location Expo](#), November 1 - 8 at the Loews Hotel in Santa Monica. Make sure to visit the CALIFORNIA booth.



QUOTABLE

"The California Film Commission and the state's incentive program are the reasons why we were able to relocate "VEEP" and "Ballers" back to California. The CFC team has been incredibly helpful throughout the process. They are integral to the incentive program's success, and we appreciate all of their hard work."

Jay Roewe
Senior Vice President, West Coast Production
HBO



FEATURED LOCATION:

American River Rapids in Placer County



Buckle Up: Tunnel Chute Class IV Rapids on the American River in Placer County

Rugged backdrop for white-water adventure provides smooth-sailing for filmmakers.

The Middle Fork of the American River near Auburn (less than an hour from Sacramento) is an ideal location for shooting all sorts of off-road scenes. It offers easy-access to Class IV rapids, a deep river canyon with meadow, serene eddies, rocky cliffs, caves, cabins and horse trails. The land on both sides of the river (more than a mile of shoreline) is privately owned by the same entity and connected by a road. It's great year-round for productions requiring rugged natural beauty, camping and fishing locations.

Please contact the Placer-Lake Tahoe Film Office for more information: 530-889-4091; www.placer.ca.gov/films

CFC Deputy Director Eve Honthaner Gets Latest Book Published

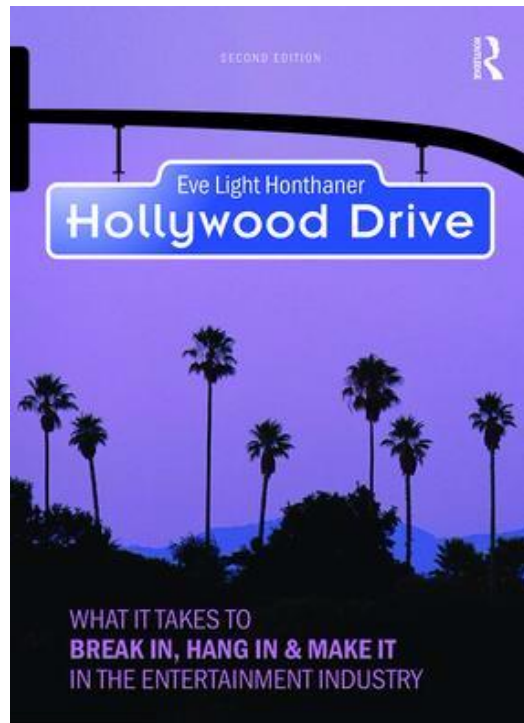
Before joining the CFC nearly five years ago, Deputy Director Eve Honthaner had a long career in film production. She has also been teaching a popular summer course at USC's School of Cinematic Arts and has authored two books widely used by industry professionals and film students worldwide. Her first book - *The Complete Film Production Handbook* - is currently in its fourth edition, while the

other -- *HOLLYWOOD DRIVE: What it Takes to Break in, Hang in & Make it in the Entertainment Industry* - has just been released in its second edition by Routledge Books.

Based on Eve's USC class, *Hollywood Drive* provides a guide to starting a career and succeeding in the entertainment industry. The completely updated edition features new interviews with industry professionals, information about the changing social media landscape, new paths to diversity and more. It's for those seeking to "break in," as well as working professionals who want to advance their careers to the next level.



CFC Deputy Director
Eve Honthamer

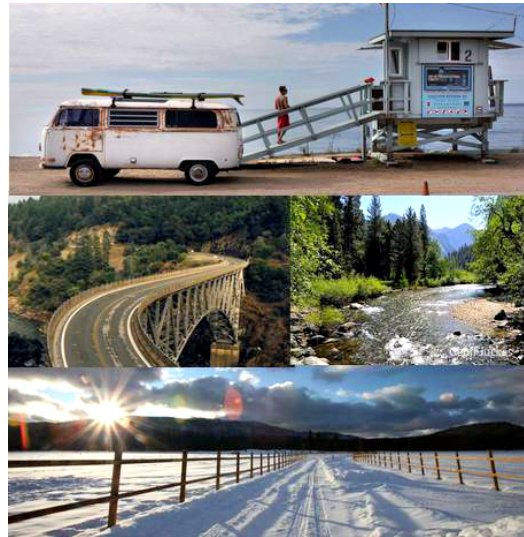


Send CFC Your Captivating Location Photos

The California Film Commission is seeking photos of distinctive California locations for the 2018 issue of *LOCATION CALIFORNIA Magazine*. We're working to assemble an assortment of breathtaking images.

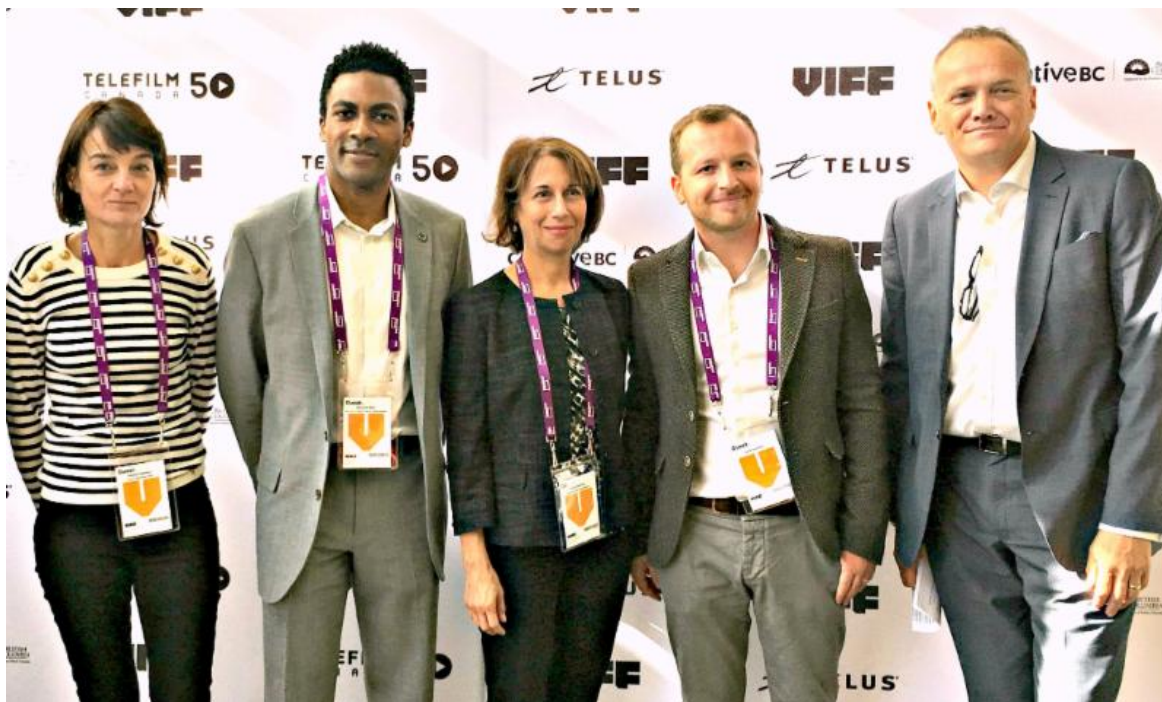
For inspiration and a sample of what we're looking for, check out the page-turner digital version of the 2017 magazine on the CFC's homepage at www.film.ca.gov.

Please send your high-res submissions to Tyler.Algozzino@film.ca.gov for consideration.



CFC In the Community

As part of its effort to promote in-state production, the California Film Commission lends its time, resources and support to a wide range of industry and civic events.



On the road at the Vancouver International Film Festival's two-day Sustainability Forum (October 3-4), where CFC Executive Director Amy Lemisch was part of the expert panel on best practices, technology and public policy. From left: Sophie Delorme (EcoProd), Kenneth Ebie (NYC Office of Media & Entertainment), Amy Lemisch (California Film Commission), Luca Ferrario (Italian Film Commission) and David Shephard (Vancouver Film Commission).

Other recent CFC appearances and community outreach include:

- Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA) Business Forecast Conference - "Filming: Lights, Camera (phone), Action!" (Universal City)
- Los Angeles Trade-Technical College Foundation's Support a Dream Benefit - CFC Executive Director Amy Lemisch named 2017 Honoree (Los Angeles)
- Made in Hollywood Honors for Emmy-Nominated Projects Filmed in California (Hollywood)

Upcoming events:

- CFC Drone Workshop (San Louis Obispo)

No Permit Fees on State-Owned Property!

The California Film Commission offers FREE permits for filming on state property. Charges are assessed to recover out-of-pocket costs such as review and monitor fees, as well as parking. There are many state-owned locations to choose from, so keep us in mind when you're looking for a low-cost location option.

Visit [CFC's website](#) for more info.

Connect with the CFC on Facebook and Instagram!

The California Film Commission has a nifty Facebook page and Instagram feed for you to get the latest info and links plus spectacular photos of California locations - from the iconic to the downright obscure.

Please give us a like/follow and stay connected!



Upcoming CFC Board Meeting:

February 9, 2018
1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Los Angeles

Recent Issues:

[Summer 2017](#)

[Spring 2017](#)

[Fall 2016](#)



Mobile App!

The California Film Commission's iOS app makes it super-easy to search our CinemaScout locations library and access CFC services while you're on-the-go.

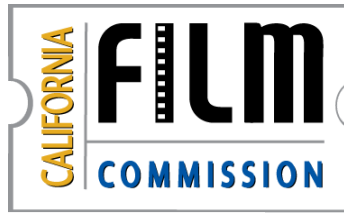
Click [here](#) to download the app!

About the California Film Commission

The California Film Commission (CFC) enhances California's status as the leader in motion picture, television and commercial production.

A one-stop office for filmmakers, the Commission supports productions of all sizes and budgets. In addition to managing the Film & Television Tax Credit program, services include an extensive digital location library, free online permitting, low cost use of state properties as shooting locations, and production assistance.

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Masthead Image:

Edna Valley Vineyard in San Luis Obispo | Courtesy of Visit San Luis Obispo

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