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GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION HOLDS NEW YORK LOVES FILM ROADSHOW AT SKIDMORE COLLEGE

The Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development held a New York Loves Film Production Roadshow at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, last Friday, February 28, as a part of its focused effort to support a future generation of New York filmmakers. Hosted by the Saratoga Film Office, the workshop featured a 60-minute face-to-face conversation with film students, senior faculty, and New York State government representatives discussing film production practices and resources across the State.

"The New York Loves Film Roadshow received an enthusiastic welcome from local filmmakers in Saratoga and will make stops in all ten regions of New York State," said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams. "The workshop's one-on-one approach, where filmmakers and students meet with state representatives to learn about film production in New York, is a testament to our commitment to the industry and its growth."

The workshop attracted over two dozen attendees who addressed a range of issues and questions, with many aspiring to stay in New York State as they pursue their careers in the industry.

"These workshops are a great help to our efforts to nurture and expand the film community in our region," said AnnaMaria Bellantoni, Vice President, Tourism, Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce. "Gathering a group around an informal table with a truly open dialogue breeds a new and critical form of networking that energizes and supports local filmmakers."

"Before today, I didn't realize that the Governor's Film office was not only available to help with my goals of becoming a filmmaker, but that they had so much practical advice and support that I could actually use," said Rafie Karen, a Skidmore student and President of Skidmore TV. "This workshop was incredibly helpful for me and my peers and I would encourage any student interested in film to attend."

"The State's tax credit program for film companies is making it possible for them to create and produce their films within New York State," said Tom Lewis, a professor at Skidmore College.

“As a professor, I think the Governor’s Film Office is doing an extraordinary job of reaching out to film students such as mine who are eager to work in New York after graduation and are looking for opportunities in the industry. By nurturing the next generation of homegrown filmmakers through workshops like this, the State is showing its commitment to growing the industry is deeply rooted in building from the ground up.”

The New York Loves Film Roadshow series piloted at the Woodstock Film Festival in October 2013, and since then has conducted over a dozen workshops in all ten regions of New York State. The program is ongoing, and additional workshops will be scheduled in upcoming months.

The NYS Governor’s Office for Motion Picture and Television Development (MPTV) provides the film and TV industry with important tools to increase production and post production across New York State, creating jobs in the process. For more information on MPTV and the Roadshow series, visit the New York Loves Film [website](#).

Empire State Development (ESD) is New York’s chief economic development agency (www.esd.ny.gov). The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the *State* and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of “I Love NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov and www.esd.ny.gov.

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