

# NY ♥ FILM NEWSLETTER

NYS Governor's Office for Motion Picture & Television Development

APRIL 2014

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## ***IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR FILM, TELEVISION AND COMMERCIAL PRODUCERS***

***New State Budget Signed by Governor Cuomo Enhances and Extends Two  
Tax Credit Programs***



Governor Cuomo signing the 2014-15 NYS Budget

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed New York State's fourth consecutive on-time budget into law on April 1 - the first time that has happened in over 40 years. Included in the 2014-15 budget are two specific provisions that impact the film, television and commercial production industries and, at the same time, work to encourage more production Upstate.

Combined with the new Upstate New York Musical and Theatrical Production Tax Credit (see accompanying article) these changes further reflect Governor Cuomo's continuing focus on promoting the growth of jobs and economic development Upstate. For the full story, click [here](#).

## ***NEW TAX CREDIT FOR THEATRICAL ROADSHOW PRODUCTIONS***

***Touring Live Musicals Major Generators of Jobs & Spending***

Long before the curtain rises on a big theatrical production prepping for a "roadshow" tour of regional theaters around the country, hundreds of people are put to work-actors and musicians rehearsing, carpenters and painters building sets, designers, tailors, costumers, lighting technicians and more are buying materials and supplies, staying in hotels, eating in restaurants as they busily scramble to get a big show up and running. For the full story, click [here](#).



Proctors Theatre in Schenectady, NY

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## ***13TH ANNUAL TRIBECA FILM FESTIVAL BOASTS IMPRESSIVE NEW YORK STATE LINE-UP***



*Begin Again*

One of New York's largest film festivals, the Tribeca Film Festival, is currently taking place in New York City until April 27. Now in its 13th year, this annual celebration of film, music and culture brings the industry and community together through storytelling. During the festival, dozens of films will be screened along with an array of panels, Q&A's and free events.

The Governor's Office for Motion Picture & Television Development is proud to have films that participated in the New York State Film Production Credit Program, and the New York State Post Production Program, be selected to screen in this year's event. If you're attending the Festival, please show your support for the following films that were shot in New York...For the full story, click [here](#).

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## ***NEW YORK CITY ANNOUNCES NEW FILM COMMISSIONER***

***Cynthia Lopez to Head Mayor's Office of Film, Theatre and Broadcasting***

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio announced the appointment of Cynthia Lopez as his Film Commissioner. Lopez had been a PBS executive and co-executive producer of the public station's *POV* series, a document series that has won numerous awards.

With regional film offices throughout New York State, Ms. Lopez is the latest addition to the network of experienced, film-friendly professionals who facilitate filming and build the industry in New York. For the full story, click [here](#).



Mayor de Blasio and Cynthia Lopez

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## ***FOUND IN YONKERS: FILM AND TELEVISION HOTSPOT***

***Production is Booming Just North of the Bronx***



The courthouse in Yonkers, built in 1908

When it comes to film and television productions, nobody gets "lost" in Yonkers anymore: Yonkers is film friendly, and countless producers are heading to New York State's fourth largest city to shoot their productions.

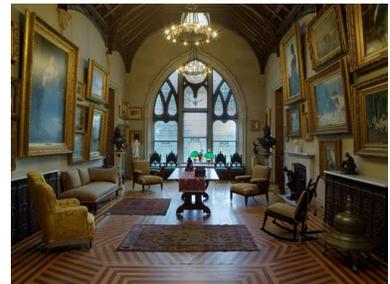
Yonkers has become popular for some very good reasons: it is entirely within the major union "report to" zones; is easily accessed by public transportation; has a wide variety of urban, suburban, and historic locations; has a New York State Qualified Production Facility soundstage experienced at hosting major studio productions (Yonkers Stages); and now, thanks to film-friendly policies instituted under Yonkers Mayor Mike Spano, has a can-do attitude that solves problems and works with productions...For the full story, click [here](#).

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## ***LOCATION SPOTLIGHT: LYNDHURST CASTLE - The American "Downton Abbey"***

Tucked away in a secluded 67-acre property situated on the widest part of the Hudson River, Lyndhurst Castle is a National Trust Historic Site and filmmakers might be surprised by the wide variety of location options that can represent aristocratic, fancy, ruined, poor, period, and can even double for Europe.

Located near Tarrytown, just 24 miles from New York City, there are 15 buildings on the property, which is beautifully landscaped and blooms from spring through fall. Aside from many magnificent trees and blooming plants, there is a rose garden and an apple orchard, and the ground is covered, not by grass, but by creeping thyme. For the full story, click [here](#).



The picture gallery at Lyndhurst Castle

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## ***MEET THE TEAM: DAWN ANSBRO Orange County Film Office***



Dawn Ansbro, Executive Director of the Orange County Arts Council and founder of the Orange County Film Office

Dawn Ansbro became Executive Director of the Orange County Arts Council in 2011 and founded the Film Office. Before coming to the Arts Council, Ansbro was Development Officer for Bon Secours Charity Health System in both Warwick and Port Jervis, so she had extensive experience with focusing on economic development.

Through the Orange County Arts Council, Ansbro found herself frequently involved in conversations about the economic impact of the arts in Orange County and how art in any form has the capacity to revitalize and invigorate a community. Realizing that film is such a significant art form and how filming can make a strong economic impact in an area, the idea to start a local film office was formed and Ansbro started turning to the film professionals in the area and to the NYS Governor's Office for Film and Television for guidance on how to best market Orange County. She researched filmmakers' needs and explored ways that a film office could best serve the industry. For the full story, click [here](#).

## **FILM GOOD/DO GOOD: "Reel Works" Brings Film to NYC At-Risk Youth**



Hands-on learning during a Reel Works workshop

Reel Works is a unique program that provides free filmmaking programs for New York City Youth. Using a unique, one-on-one mentoring model, at-risk youth are challenged to tell their stories and have their voices heard. In turn, they build vital skills of literacy, leadership and self-confidence to create productive futures.

Students are matched 1:1 with professional filmmaker-mentors - a powerful combination that changes young lives while creating startling and original films that have been seen by over 10 million viewers since it was founded in 2001. What began as a single workshop of 17 students at the Prospect Park YMCA in Park Slope, Brooklyn has grown to provide free after-school and in-school programs which give a voice to over 500 youth citywide. For the full story, click [here](#).

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## **SAVE THE DATE** **April - May 2014**

Tribeca International Film Festival - April 16-27, 2014  
New York Asian Film Festival - April 18-20, 2014  
High Falls Film Festival - April 23-26, 2014,  
Buffalo / Niagara Film Festival - April 24- May 3, 2014  
Knickerbocker Film Festival - April 21-24, 2014

For more information and upcoming TV & film premieres, click [here](#).



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