



For Immediate Release: Wednesday, October 30, 2013

Contact:

ESD Press Office | pressoffice@esd.ny.gov | (800) 260-7313

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF MOTION PICTURE AND TELEVISION HOLDS NEW YORK LOVES FILM ROADSHOW IN ROCHESTER

Everything you wanted to know about filming in New York State at your fingertips

The Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development held a New York Loves Film Production Roadshow at the offices of VisitRochester in Rochester, NY yesterday. Hosted by the Rochester Film Office, the workshop featured a 60-minute face-to-face conversation with filmmakers, production support, small business owners, post production providers and New York State government representatives discussing film production practices and issues across the state.

"The New York Loves Film Production Roadshow was met with interest and enthusiasm by local filmmakers in Woodstock earlier this month. This latest effort by Governor Cuomo and the entire team to promote film and television in New York State is drawing approval from the state's filmmaking community," said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Kenneth Adams. "The workshops' one-on-one approach, where filmmakers meet with state representatives to learn about film production in the state, is a testament to our commitment to the industry and its growth."

"The state's new interactive approach puts the tools and answers filmmakers need at their fingertips, giving them support and showing New York State's commitment to film projects, both large and small," said Gigi Semone, Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Motion Picture and Television Development. "These workshops strengthen the connection between the state and filmmakers. The individual attention given to attendees allows us to focus on their individual needs and streamline the process. As every project is unique and has its own needs and challenges, we want this series of meetings to emphasize accessibility and the resources available to all."

"Rochester is a unique center for film because it not only has the infrastructure to support a large production like Spider-Man coming to town, but has a thriving and unified independent filmmaker community that takes great pride in working in the region," said Nora Brown Executive Director Rochester Film Office. "This workshop was extremely effective in informing them about the changes in the New York State film tax incentive and also allowed them to

share their ideas, challenges and upcoming projects. These are filmmakers who want to make their movies here and the tax credit program will help them accomplish that."

The more than two dozen workshop attendees ranged from first-time filmmakers to veteran producers and the participants' reception was enormously positive.

"This workshop was really helpful because we not only got to talk through Governor Cuomo's enhancement of the film tax credits, but it was a gathering of local Rochester filmmakers sharing information on things like where to get a fire truck or how to write a deal memo," said producer John Cocca. "It was a really collaborative exchange and I would recommend going to one of these workshops to anyone making films or thinking about making a film in New York State. Such an informal setting allowed for a very productive discussion."

"As an Upstate filmmaker you need to understand all of it, get as much information as you can before you go out and try to make your movie," said producer/director Nick DiBella. "The range of experience of the people at the workshop, plus the updates from the team from the New York State film Office on the tax credits and all the other things they're doing - it was very useful to me even though I've made a number of films in New York before."

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.



###