Max Miranda, actor and model, is an active member of Nevada Film Alliance. He is in the cast of many local film productions and enjoys the beginnings of a commercial career as actor and model. We dedicated this photo to the cover of our first issue because the subject and the style capture the essence of filmmaking in Nevada. Many thanks to 1010 Collective, Greg Anderson Photography, the El Cortez, and Max Miranda for a photogenic treatment that speaks volumes in the language of film, in a still. It is also a salute to aspiring talents like Max, giving recognition to the brave and new. One picture speaks a thousand words. Keep up the good work. Read our interview with Max in this issue. We welcome photos for future issues. See back page for contact. – SilverScreen Staff
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January 1, 2014
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dear Film Community Members, Colleagues and Associates,

In the month of May in 2013, on a 13-8 vote, our State Senate approved a bill to give tax credits to movie companies filming in Nevada. From there, the bill became law through the State Assembly and onto the Governor’s desk. This, our inaugural newsletter issue of Silver Screen, celebrates the good contributions and efforts of everyone who afforded this bill a full passage into law (read the Senator Ford interview in this issue). On behalf of everyone associated with the movie business in Nevada, thank you.

We also present this maiden issue as an initial concept for a publication that serves everyone in the movie business who has movie-making interests in our state. To help illuminate everyone who seeks illumination about the film incentive, we have included various perspectives on the subject in this issue. More perspectives will be included in future issues, as well as interviews with all kinds of film people involved in the various parts of the spectrum in filmmaking and related business activities in Nevada. Interview subjects and relevant stories are always welcome!

As an initiative of the Nevada Film Alliance (NFA) board of directors, this newsletter has been my responsibility to make happen. As usual, I wear whatever hats that suit my skills to get the job done. However, I could not have realized this entire newsletter alone. I wish to acknowledge our team players, who helped Silver Screen come into being through our first issue: Ron Greenwood, Rob Goald, Lee Lanier, Diana Eden, Edward Saxon, Stephen Stough, Teri Dukas, Jed Curtis, and our advertisers.

Next issue, I would like to see the appearance of my name reduced in frequency, while our list of contributors and advertisers grows. The ad in the C2 (inside cover on contents page) advertising position will change issue to issue, to give participating production companies opportunities for premium exposure. As this publication progresses, we are able to help more and more people and businesses involved in this crazy art, science and business we call “Movie.” Meanwhile, we are seeking more contributors. Please contact me. We need to build a complete staff in 2014!

May the filmmaking gods be with you!

Sincerely

Marko Sakren
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Silver Screen Inc.

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Silver Screen Inc. publishes this newsletter for members of the Nevada Film Alliance™ and the film industry at large.
LeadStory (Historical Perspective): Nevada Film Tax Incentive
SB 165 Law in Effect as of Jan 1, 2014

Telling the story of the bill’s progress (below) reprinted with permission from Las Vegas Review-Journal

Nevada film tax credit bill clears Senate, heads to State Assembly

State Sen. Aaron Ford, D-Las Vegas, said companies are filming movies about Nevada and Las Vegas in other states because they offer tax incentives.

“When we offer a reasonable incentive, they will come to Nevada,” he said.

Ford first proposed $50 million in annual tax incentives, a plan critics considered much too costly for a state just exiting the recession. As it is, state employees are rallying today in Carson City and Las Vegas to protest wage cuts of nearly 5 percent that they have endured since 2009.

Of the 10 Senate Republicans, only Mark Hutchison of Las Vegas and Pete Goicoechea of Eureka favored the tax incentive bill.

During hearings, actor Nicolas Cage visited the Legislature and Sandoval to tout the bill.

“It is exciting to have a celebrity visit us, but not at the expense of good tax policy,” said Sen. Greg Brower, R-Reno.

He said the money should be spent instead on education, public safety or law enforcement. Brower also cited a Tax Foundation study that found that states offering subsidies have not all made money out of the incentives. Louisiana loses $48 million a year, according to its legislative study.

Ford said none of the 45 states with incentives has repealed its film subsidy law, although some have made changes.

Senate Majority Leader Mo Denis, D-Las Vegas, said Nevada offers what film companies want: Las Vegas, which is close to Hollywood and Reno, and which has unique attractions; and rural Nevada, which has small towns, desert, mountains, lakes and forests.
Industry Interview:

Edward Saxon, Oscar-winning Producer, on the Nevada film incentive starting 2014.

Interviewed by Marko Sakren (MS), Producer/Director, Founder/Director, Nevada Film Alliance Inc.

**MS**
What does it mean, from your perspective as a Hollywood producer, for Nevada to be one of the states with a film incentive (transferable tax credit, to be specific)?

**ES**
Having a Nevada film incentive is, simply, a real incentive to come to Nevada! It could make it possible to actually shoot scenes that are set in Nevada, in Nevada. It will incent producers to move shoot days that might have been scheduled for California or another state to Nevada. It means not trying to fake Las Vegas with a few 2nd unit shots and instead actually shooting in the location.

**MS**
How can Nevada become more prepared to provide the proper workforce to support film production that comes into the state? i.e. Many production companies bring their own personnel, and only hire locally for the lowest positions (e.g. PA, Background Extra, etc) due to bad experiences hiring locally in the past.

**ES**
The more qualified crew that is available to hire, the more likely we are to come. The fewer the people we have to bring - the lower the cost. The more people we hire in Nevada the better for local industry professionals.

**MS**
Would a list of pre-qualified professionals in many categories (such as the NFA Prime subset of the Nevada Film Alliance membership) be helpful in hiring more locals?

**ES**
It would be great to have a list of pre-qualified crew members and their credits available, and would be another incentive to come shoot in Nevada!

**MS**
How is proximity to L.A. good for film production in Nevada?

**ES**
The proximity to Los Angeles is an enormous boost for Nevada. Actors and crew like to see their families and friends and Nevada has is probably the simplest commute to and from Los Angeles of any of the tax credit states!

**MS**
Any advice to actors and crew, both union and non-union, living and seeking work in Nevada?

**ES**
I encourage actors and crew to make sure they strengthen their network connections to be sure they hear of the new productions that will be coming to Nevada.

**MS**
What would incent you to produce a film in Nevada?

**ES**
I'm sold. We producers are forced to shop for the best tax credit deals. Now that Nevada has a tax credit, I'll be sure to consider it for any film that could shoot there.

**MS**
Would you promote Nevada as a place to film, or not, and why?

**ES**
Las Vegas, of course, is unique - so most productions will be coming there. I'd promote Nevada as the best of both worlds. Professional quality crew at tax incentive prices!
What does it mean, from your perspective as a state senator, for Nevada to be one of the states with a film incentive (transferable tax credit, to be specific)?

I've always believed we need to diversify our economy beyond gaming and mining. We hit the recession in 2007 and 2008 and we started looking for opportunities to diversify. The film industry is something I've already heard was a possibility and opportunity, and I wondered why we were unable to attract Hollywood here more frequently. I talked among my colleagues and learned it was because there were a number of other states that had essentially driven down our percentage of film production over the last decade or so because of their film incentives.

What was the start for SB165?

As a Democrat, interested in ways to improve our state’s ability to create jobs, I talked with my constituents during the campaign season about the prospects of creating a film incentive to help diversify our economy. I became dedicated to that prospect. So, around the second week of session, we introduced a bill that took around 100 days to get through the entire process. Along the way, the language had to go through several iterations until it ultimately became a bill that would be signed by the Governor. It started out as a $50 million, open-ended program. Then, ended up being a $20 million, four-year pilot program. There were a lot of tweaks and changes that needed to be made to get my Republican colleagues on board, our Assembly colleagues on board, and, ultimately, the Governor on board.

Who were the original people instrumental in drafting SB165?

From the beginning there were: J.R. Reid (J.R. Lighting & Grip); Joshua Cohen (Cohencidence Prods.); Randy Soltero (IATSE); Jeff Spilman (Bottomline Entertainment); chambers of commerce from south and north; plus the Nevada Film Office; and others.

What were the naysayers saying?

The naysayers claim, even if we have an incentive no one is going to come. Others say, this incentive is not money well spent because no sustainable jobs will be created.

Can you explain the gist of the bill?

It's important to read the entire bill to get the whole picture of this incentive. In sum, there is a $500,000 minimum spending per production. In order to qualify for the incentive, you need to spend 60% of that money here in Nevada or with a Nevada business. To qualify for the 15% credit, all of the money has to be spent first, verified through an audit performed by an approved CPA in Nevada for consideration and then issuance of transferable tax credit certificate, if all requirements are met.

How will this new law encourage the creation jobs?

The maximum amount of the incentive per year for the entire state is $20 million, but for each production the cap is $6 million. That will prevent one big production from coming in to swoop of the entire incentive. The idea was to create a new industry in Nevada, not just new jobs. More productions mean more opportunities to build that industry, creating the need to train even more local film enthusiasts. Furthermore, there's an added stipulation in the incentive to hire locally.

What is that added incentive and what is the maximum amount of tax credits available to a qualified producer?

The 15% is the incentive for simply spending your money here. There's an additional 2%, raising the overall threshold to 17%, when you hire 50% plus one of your employees from Nevada. Then another 2% increase in the threshold applies when production gets taken out of the traditional production areas such as Washoe and Clark counties to film in other Nevada counties. So, the maximum credit amount goes up to 19% based on how many Nevadans you hire and where you actually shoot.

What should be the objectives for the film community in the next four years to make this pilot program a success?

Members of the industry have been asking for an incentive here in Nevada for over a decade. Other attempts have failed but this time we made it happen. Now, the proof is in the pudding. It's time for the film industry to put its money where its mouth is so we can show the naysayers that this incentive will be a success.
SilverScreen  THE NEWSLETTER FOR FILMMAKERS FILMING IN NEVADA P a g e 6

NV Creative Force:
Diana Eden, Costume Designer
Interviewed by Karen Kasmo (KK), Production Designer, Glenbrook Studios®

www.dianaedendesigns.com

 KK
What attracted you to the profession of costume design?

DE
It was a natural progression from my studies as an art major, from having been a professional performer in dance and acting, and from loving to sew and design clothing. Since age 15, when I earned my first dollars dancing, I have never NOT been in the entertainment industry, in one form or another.

 KK
How did you first get involved in the industry?

DE
Having been working for some time with Costume Designer Bob Mackie on the original Jubilee Show, as well as with him and other designers for TV variety shows (back when they still had them!), I was recommended by the Head of Wardrobe at NBC to the producer of the TV series The Facts of Life. I was hired and did the show for 3 years, then went on to do more sitcoms, pilots, eventually moving into dramas and films for television and features.

 KK
Why did you move to Las Vegas and how is your life here?

DE
Life is great here - I love it! My husband and I moved here in 2008 as a "semi-retirement" move. We wanted to be where there was an active entertainment industry so we could work when we felt like it with projects we enjoyed. The climate and the cost of living also attracted us.

 KK
Who were your mentors in costume design?

DE
My mentor was Bob Mackie, who was the first one to spot my abilities and hire me. After that I worked as assistant to several very talented designers from whom I learned so much, both about designing costumes, and about how to interact with others in the industry.

 KK
What would be your dream job as a costume designer?

DE
My dream job would be a contemporary story, shooting on location in Rome, with additional location shoots in Santorini and the South of France! High budget, of course, with stars who love my work and are easy to dress.

 KK
What have you been working on recently?

DE
I have worked on two major Hollywood films in town this last year, Think Like A Man Too and Step Up 5. I am attached to an independent film that plans to shoot in May of 2014, and I have been teaching and mentoring at UNLV. I also write features for the Costume Designers Guild magazine and website.

 KK
How do you think the new state film incentive will improve prospects for you and other local talents?

DE
I am thrilled that they passed, and hope there will be a burgeoning film presence here in Las Vegas. UNLV is producing some fine young film-makers, there is extensive independent film-making here, and there is no reason why we couldn't have studios producing features and TV series year round. This will provide jobs and careers for those costume designers and costumers coming up, as well as all those others in the creative and technical fields.

 KK
What advice do you have for aspiring creatives?

DE
Keep studying and working on or around film whenever and wherever you can. Work for free if you have to, it WILL pay off. Also, love what you do and don't whine and complain, and you will always be invited back!
“Success is when opportunity meets preparation.”

**GM**
What inspired you to pursue an acting career?

**MM**
Ever since I was a boy, I loved the nights when my father let me stay past bedtime to watch the movie of the week. But participating in plays during high school is what started this passion I have today. My entire life I have heard a voice in my head telling me to be an actor. The only difference now is that I listen to it. I’m very fortunate to have the support of my family and especially of my better half, the love of my life. She is the one that has to put up with the crazy hours I sometimes have to work, the one that gave me the final little push I needed to go all in! She has even started to study the craft, and is also working and getting roles! I’m very happy about it.

**GM**
What kind of projects have you been working on recently?

**MM**
I’m very grateful that - in a short period of time - I have been lucky to be a part of a lot of projects: feature films, short films, Internet series, television shows, a theatrical play, and commercials, from local to regional and even national productions. I have been blessed with many opportunities, like the feature film “To Topple an Empire” that is in production right now. I’m working with a lot of talented people and with an award-winning screenplay. I also have to give thanks all the people that trusted me with the roles, give me all of these opportunities and kept me busy all year long!

**GM**
What kind of role would you most like to play?

**MM**
An anti-hero! That is, hands down, my favorite type of role. It gives you so many different options when comes to ideas on creating the character based on the genre, the time period, the environment and whatever different situations an actor can play.

**GM**
What’s the scariest, weirdest or wildest thing you had to do as an actor?

**MM**
On a short film called “Limbo” I played Miguel, the lead character, and he was an embalmer at a morgue. I had a scene where I apply makeup to a dead guy … that was pretty weird.

**GM**
Does having an accent help or hurt your casting and performance opportunities??

**MM**
The accent works both ways. In some cases it helps and in others it doesn’t. Now I’m working on accent-reduction classes: I want to be able to use it or not, depending on the role. I definitely don’t want to lose it completely. I enjoy having an accent and I believe it sets me apart from other actors, but being able to control it will open a lot more opportunities.

**GM**
How can the local film community help actors like you?

**MM**
I’m very excited that the tax credit bill SB165 was approved. I hope we all get together as a community, work hard on getting prepared to compete on a national level and to earn the respect of the big producers, so that they will choose Nevada as a destination to make their project a reality. As one of my teachers says, “Success is when opportunity meets preparation.”

**GM**
What would you say is something people would not expect to hear about you given their first impression of you??

**MM**
I used to be very shy as a kid. So it took a lot from me to make the transition from a quiet kid to the normally open and friendly person that I am today. Nowadays I think is funny when I tell people that I was very shy and they say, “No way!”
NVStateNews:

Eric Preiss, Director, Nevada Film Office
Interviewed by Ron Greenwood (RG), Filmmaker, Advisor, Nevada Film Alliance™

www.nevadafilm.com

RG
Why is the passage of Senate Bill 165 a good thing for the people of Nevada?

EP
The State of Nevada is filled with exceptional talent in all aspects of the film, television, performing and production industry. The passage of Senate Bill 165, creating a Transferable Tax Credit for Film and Other Productions, will allow our State to compete with about 40 other states which currently offer some type of film tax incentive program. The expected increase in the number of productions coming to Nevada will result in more jobs for all these talented professionals.

RG
Who will benefit from the increase in filming in Nevada?

EP
Additional filming days in Nevada will result in more work for the entire production community. In addition to the direct impacts on the film community, the indirect impacts of the industry will affect additional industries that support the film business. Dry cleaners, car rental agencies, construction workers, security officers, and many other industries and professionals are involved when productions film in our State.

RG
Could any aspect of SB165 become a financial burden?

EP
The goal of the legislation is create a positive economic impact for the residents of Nevada. I believe the increase in the number of productions visiting Nevada, using the services our state has to offer and employing our residents, will be a benefit to our State.

RG
What can the average “local film worker” do to be ready?

EP
Nevada is filled with talented, hard-working, experienced industry professionals and all the supporting businesses that film productions rely on to get projects done on time and on budget. We will continue to do what we have always done, showcase our state and provide an outstanding experience for those productions that shoot here in Nevada.

RG
As Director, you will oversee the entire incentive program. How large is your staff?

EP
The Nevada Film Office has served the production community and the state for over 30 years. As part of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, we will oversee the incentive program. The Office currently has 5 very talented individuals dedicated to serving the community in all areas of production, including assistance with permitting, location scouting, community outreach, and now tax incentives.

RG
How can they connect with the incoming filmmakers to pitch their services or products?

EP
I would expect the increase in filming in Nevada to produce more opportunities and exposure for anyone who is working in or interested in the industry. As more productions come to Nevada, the industry will continue to grow and flourish in the State. At the Film Office, we produce the annual Nevada Production Directory which is the source for production companies looking to find services in Nevada. The guide is a great way to connect people in the industry with people who want there services.

RG
In summary, what are Nevada’s greatest incentives?

EP
Our proximity to Los Angeles has always been a benefit to filming in Nevada. The addition of a tax incentive will offer yet another reason to film in our State. With the amount of talented people and qualified businesses in Nevada, local businesses will see a benefit from the increase in productions. However, we have so much more to offer than tax incentives. The natural beauty of Nevada, the friendly business climate, the 300+ days of sunshine, and the talented work force will continue to attract the film community as it always has.
Las Vegas Film Critics Society 2013 Sierra Awards

Submitted by Robert Goald, UNLV Film Professor, LVFCS Film Critic, and Member of NFA Board of Directors.

Best Director
Steve McQueen
“12 Years a Slave”

Best Screenplay
Spike Jonze
“Her”

Best Cinematography
Emmanuel Lubezki
“Gravity”

Best Film Editing
Alfonso Cuaron
Mark Sanger
“Gravity”

Best Costume Design
Patricia Norris
“12 Years a Slave”

Best Art Direction
Andy Nicholson
“Gravity”

Best Visual Effects
“Gravity”

Best Score
Hans Zimmer
“12 Years a Slave”

Best Song
“Please Mr. Kennedy”
“Inside Llewyn Davis”

Best Foreign Film
“Blue is the Warmest Color”

Best Documentary
“Blackfish”

Best Animated Film
“Frozen”

Best Family Film
“Saving Mr. Banks”

Best Horror/Sci-Fi Film
“Pacific Rim”

Best Comedy Film
“This is the End”

Best Action Film
“Lone Survivor”

Best DVD
( Packaging, Design and Content)
“Breaking Bad – The Complete Series”
(Blu-Ray)

Best Picture
“12 Years a Slave”

Best Actor
Matthew McConaughey
“Dallas Buyers Club”

Best Actress
Emma Thompson
“Saving Mr. Banks”

Best Supporting Actor
Jared Leto
“Dallas Buyers Club”

Best Supporting Actress
Lupita Nyong’o
“12 Years a Slave”

Youth in Film
Tye Sheridan
“Mud”
FilmReview:

“Her”

Reviewed by ROB GOALD
SENIOR EDITOR, FILM FESTIVAL TODAY
http://www.filmfestivaltoday.com/film-reviews

It’s hard to imagine that visionary director Spike Jonze has been adapting outrageous concepts into feature-length motion pictures for some 15 years. For his fourth film, following Being John Malkovich (1999), Adaptation (2002), and Where the Wild Things Are (2009), he steps into auteur territory by working from his own original screenplay.

For his latest feature, “Her”, he offers us an inventive, post-modern romantic comedy like we’ve never seen before. It provides a vision of our cyber-focused world and where it is heading.

The film centers on the story of Theodore Twombly (a deeply felt- Joaquin Phoenix) a depressed and lonely 30-something guy who develops a romantic attachment to his Smartphone’s computer operating system. Twombly, who writes letters on-line for people who are “blocked” from expressing their emotions, falls for the title character who is vivacious and eerily intuitive. The OS names itself Samantha and is voiced by the mellifluous tones of Scarlett Johansson who never appears on screen.

Theodore lives an upscale life in a location that approximates a not so distant-in-the-future Los Angeles. He wears a pocket size communication device that might be likened to a Zappo lighter. His isolation is accentuated by the fact that his wife (Rooney Mara) has left him. She opines on his condition: “You’re dating your lap-top?” His best friend is portrayed by Amy Adams who seems aloof as she designs video-games.

“Her” works on a variety of levels. It builds on the way people react to their mobile devices as they wander around in a trance-like communion with their phones and it asks the question can people achieve sexual fulfillment from this type of cerebral relationship?

The lensing is the outstanding work of DP Hoyte Van Hoytema. The sound design is poignant and music is provided by the brilliant Arcade Fire.

What Mr. Jones, 44, does so well is provide the viewer with a poetic sensitivity and a philosophic overtone. When asked to provide insight into his latest work he commented: “I don’t think the movie is about technology. Yes, it has all these big ideas but whenever the ideas dwarfed the intimacy…we always went toward the relationship”.

The Las Vegas Film Critics Society, of which I am a member, voted “Her” as having “The Best Screenplay” for a motion picture released in 2013.

Copied with permission from Robert Goald, Film Festival Today.
NVConnections: 2014 Nevada Film Websites & Community Groups

www.nevadafilm.com Nevada Film Office (state film commission)
Nevada Production Directory, Locations Database, Script Breakdown Services, Film Incentive Information, Film Incentive Processing, and more.
Call: [702] 486-2711 or 877-NEV-FILM (877-638-3456)

Join the conversation at the following film-related groups online:

www.nevadafilm.org Nevada Film Alliance Inc. (non-profit community organization)
Social Media Access, Prime Membership Database, Educational Events, Film Incentive Resources, Select Vendor Network, and more.
Call: [702] 222-1001

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www.facebook.com/groups/LasVegasMotionPictureSyndicate
www.facebook.com/groups/The SpokenWord

If you operate a group related to filmmaking, we invite you to share it with others by having it listed on this page in this publication.
Email your group’s link to: groups@nevadafilm.ORG All submissions subject to review and approval. Professionalism is focus.
NV Festivals Announcement: 2014 Dam Short Film Festival

Dam Short Film Festival

YEAR 10

February 12-16, 2014

Boulder Theatre, Boulder City, NV

DamShortFilm.org
SB165: Nevada Motion Picture Jobs Creation Act

THE BASICS

- Production is in economic interest of Nevada;
- 60% or more total costs/expenditures must be incurred in Nevada;
- Total production costs (including pre-production and post-production) must exceed $500,000;
- Base amount of tax credits equals 15% of cumulative expenditures/costs; plus add’l 2% added in each of two other categories:
  - 50% or more BTL Nevada Labor;
  - 50% or more Shooting Days in Nevada counties that have less than $10MM in production in prior two years (i.e. “rural” counties);
- Transferable tax credits issued to any one Producer must not exceed $6MM;
- Combined amount of transferable tax credits approved statewide must not exceed $20MM for current fiscal year (January thru December);
- Business must have physical location and licensed to do business in Nevada; and employ at least 1 full-time equivalent employee (FTE) in Nevada;
- Compensation payable to any Employee, Independent Contractor, or any other person paid a Wage or Salary for providing Labor will only qualify for tax credits up to $750K per.
- Compensation payable to Producers who are not Nevada residents must not exceed 5% of budget expensed in Nevada;
- Compensation payable to Producers who are Nevada residents must not exceed 10% of budget expensed in Nevada;
- Nevada Resident defined as living in the state for 6 months and has valid Nevada driver’s license;
- Priority will be given to productions that promote tourism in Nevada;
- This pilot program expires Jan 1, 2018;
- Application submitted not earlier than 90 days before commencement of principal photography;
- Producer must submit all Accountings and other required information within 30 days after Completion of Production;
- Production must be completed within one (1) year after date of commencement of principal photography;
- Producer’s tax credits expire 4 years after date issued;

BASIC PROCESS:

To accompany application...

Proof that production is in Nevada's economic interest;
Proof of 50% of Funds in an escrow account Or, Proof of Adequate Financing in place;
Proof that 60% or more of Costs/Expenditures, including pre-prod and post-prod, will be incurred in Nevada;
Script, Storyboard or Synopsis;
Names of Producer, Director and proposed Cast;
Estimated production Timeline;
Detailed production Budget, including projected expenses incurred outside of Nevada;

Producer submits final accounting within 30 days of prod completion.

To accompany application...

Details regarding Financing (e.g. binding commitment, loan application, commitment letter or investment letter);
Insurance certificate, binder or quote for General Liability Insurance of $1 MM or more;
Business Address of Producer with its location in Nevada;
Proof that Workers’ Comp insurance requirements are met;
Proof that Producer has secured All Business Licenses Required in prod locations in the State; and
Any other information required by regulations adopted by GOED.

At completion of production...

Provide Audit with Report showing qualified expenditures and production costs of $500,000 or more incurred in Nevada, and certified by an independent certified public accountant (CPA) in Nevada, approved by GOED;
Pay cost of Audit; and
Meet any other requirements prescribed by regulation/GOED.

NV Senate Bill No. 165 was signed into law on June 11, 2013, by Governor Brian Sandoval.
Sponsored by Senators: Ford, Smith, Denis, Hutchison, Roberson, Atkinson, Jones, Kihuen, Manendo, Parks, Segerblom, Spearman and Woodhouse.
This document was prepared by members of the Nevada Film Alliance Inc. Version 1/1/14
SB165: Nevada Motion Picture Jobs Creation Act

The Essentials of How the New Law Works

The Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development (GOED)* approves and issues a certificate of transferable tax credits to a Producer that produces a qualified film or other production in the State of Nevada based on the following requirements:

Circumstances:
- Production must be in economic interest of State of Nevada.
- At least 60% of total qualified expenditures and production costs (see definitions) must be incurred in Nevada.
- Total production costs (not just the expenditures incurred in Nevada) must exceed $500,000.

Base amount of transferable tax credits issued to Producer must equal 15% of cumulative qualified expenditures/costs.

PLUS: Tax credits issued to Producer must include credits equal to:
- Additional 2% of cumulative qualified expenditures/costs if more than 50% of below-the-line personnel are Nevada residents;
- Additional 2% of cumulative qualified expenditures/costs if more than 50% of filming days occurred in a Nevada county in which, in each of the 2 years immediately preceding date of application, productions incurred less than $10 Million direct expenditures.

Application Process: An application for a certificate of eligibility for transferable tax credits must be submitted not earlier than 90 days before date of commencement of principal photography of the qualified production, if any. The GOED will prescribe by regulation the procedure for determining the date of commencement of qualified productions that do not include photography for the purposes of this section.

If GOED receives an application, GOED will provide notice to applicant of a hearing on the application no later than 30 days before that hearing. The date of the hearing must be no later than 60 days after the GOED receives the completed application. GOED will issue a decision on the application no later than 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing.

Producer must submit all accounting and other required information within 30 days after completion of production, which must be completed within 1 year after the date of commencement of principal photography. If GOED determines that submitted information is incomplete, Producer must provide all additional information required no later than 30 days after receiving notice that the information is incomplete.

GOED will give priority to approve and process applications submitted by Producers that promote tourism in Nevada.

Calculation of Transferable Tax Credits:
Within 30 days of production’s completion, Producer must provide GOED with an audit of qualified production certified by an independent certified public accountant in Nevada, approved by GOED.

Within 14 business days after receipt of audit provided by Producer, and any other accounting or other information required by GOED, GOED will determine whether to certify the audit and make a final determination of whether a Certificate of Transferable Tax Credits will be issued. Within 30 days after receipt of approval, Producer must make an irrevocable declaration of the amount of tax credits which will be issued. Upon receipt of the declaration, GOED will issue to Producer a Certificate of Transferable Tax Credits in the amount approved by the GOED for the fees or taxes included in Producer’s declaration. Producer must notify GOED upon transferring any transferable tax credits.

In calculating base amount of transferable tax credits: Wages and salaries, including fringe benefits, paid to above-the-line personnel who are not Nevada residents must be included at a rate of 12%.

Wages and salaries, including fringe benefits, paid to below-the-line personnel who are not Nevada residents:
- For period beginning Jan 1, 2014, and ending Dec 31, 2015, must be included in the calculation at a rate of 12%.
- For period beginning Jan 1, 2016, and ending Dec 31, 2016, must be included in the calculation at a rate of 10%.
- For period beginning Jan 1, 2017, and ending Dec 31, 2017, must be included in the calculation at a rate of 8%.

As used in this section, “fringe benefits” means employee expenses paid by an employer for the use of a person’s services, including, without limitation, payments made to a governmental entity, union dues, health insurance premiums, payments to a pension plan and payments for workers’ compensation insurance.

GOED will not approve any application for transferable tax credits:
- If approval of the application would cause the total amount of transferable tax credits approved for the current fiscal year to exceed $20 Million statewide.
- If the application is received on or after January 1, 2018.

The transferable tax credits issued to any Producer for any qualified production:
- Must not exceed a total amount of $6 Million; and
- Expire 4 years after the date on which the transferable tax credits are issued to the Producer.

For purposes of calculating qualified expenditures/costs:
- The compensation payable to all Producers who are Nevada residents must not exceed 10% of the portion of the total budget of the qualified production that was expended in or attributable to any expenses incurred in Nevada.
- The compensation payable to all Producers who are not Nevada residents must not exceed 5% of the portion of the total budget of the qualified production that was expended in or attributable to any expenses incurred in Nevada.
- The compensation payable to any employee, independent contractor, or any other person paid a wage or salary as compensation for providing labor services on the production of the qualified production must not exceed $750,000.

Errors and Misrepresentations: If unqualified expenses were calculated into final accounting, Producer will be required to return any portion of non-entitled transferable tax credits.

Local Abatements: Cities or counties may grant abatements of certain permitting/licensing fees imposed or charged.

Additionally: GOED handles all other matters relating thereto.

* The abbreviation “GOED” is used for the purposes of this document. In the language of the Act, the word “Office” is used.
“Nevada business” means a proprietorship, corporation, partnership, company, association, trust, unincorporated organization, or other enterprise that:

- Has a physical location and at least one full-time equivalent employee in Nevada; and
- Is licensed to transact business in Nevada.

“Nevada resident” means a bona fide resident as that term is defined in NRS 361.015.

“Producer” means a natural person or business that finances, arranges to finance, or supervises the production of a qualified production.

The term “Qualified production” includes: preproduction, production and postproduction of:

- Theatrical, direct-to-video or other media motion pictures;
- Made-for-television motion pictures;
- Visual effects or digital animation sequences;
- Television pilot programs;
- Interstitial television programming;
- Television, Internet or other media series, including comedy, drama, miniseries, soap opera, talk show, or telenovela;
- National or regional commercials or series of commercials.
- Infomercials.
- Interstitial advertisements.
- Music videos.
- Documentary films or series.
- Other visual media productions, including, without limitation, video games, and mobile applications.

The term does not include:

- News, weather or current events programs;
- Productions primarily for industrial, corporate or institutional use;
- Telethons or any production that solicits money, other than a productions produced for national distribution;
- Political advertisements;
- Sporting events;
- Galas or awards shows;
- Other types excluded by regulations adopted by GOED.

To be eligible for transferable tax credits, Producer must:

- Submit an application (provided by GOED) not earlier than 90 days before commencement date of principal photography;
- Provide proof satisfactory to GOED that production is in the economic interest of Nevada;
- Provide proof satisfactory to GOED that 50% or more of the funding for the qualified production has been placed in an escrow account or trust account for the benefit of the qualified production; and,
- Provide proof satisfactory to the GOED that at least 60% of the total qualified expenditures and production costs for the qualified production, including preproduction and postproduction, will be incurred in Nevada;
- At the completion of the qualified production, provide the GOED with an audit that includes an itemized report of qualified expenditures and production costs which:
  - Shows that qualified production incurred qualified expenditures and production costs in Nevada of $500,000 or more;
  - Is certified by an independent certified public accountant (CPA) in Nevada approved by GOED;
- Pay cost of audit; and
- Meet any other requirements prescribed by regulation pursuant to this section and GOED.

A submitted application must contain:

- A script, storyboard or synopsis of the qualified production;
- The names of the producer, director and proposed cast;
- An estimated timeline to complete the qualified production;
- An insurance certificate, binder or quote for general liability insurance of $5,000,000 or more;
- The business address of producer (must be a Nevada address);
- Proof that the qualified production meets any applicable requirements relating to workers’ compensation insurance;
- Proof that the producer has secured all licenses required to do business in each location in Nevada at which the qualified production will be produced; and,
- Any other information required by regulations adopted by GOED.

NV Senate Bill No. 165 was signed into law on June 11, 2013, by Governor Brian Sandoval. 
Sponsored by Senators: Ford, Smith, Denis, Hutchison, Roberson; Atkinson, Jones, Kihuen, Manendo, Parks, Segerblom, Spearman and Woodhouse. 
MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Two (2) Years (accumulative) Competitively Paid Professional Employment (Payroll or Contract) with a Motion Picture Production Company on Two or more Fully Funded Feature Motion Pictures;
- Two (2) Email & Phone References for Supervisor(s), Employer(s), and/or Producer(s) of those projects;
- Grand Score Higher than 250 Points (out of 300 Points) conducted by NFA-P Select Committee.*

OR...

- Industry-Recognized through Nominations and/or Awards from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, DGA, PGA, Emmy, and/or comparable, top professional member/awards organizations.

OR...

- Honorary Invitation from NFA Founder and/or NFA Board of Directors;
- Apprenticeship status for qualified candidates (waiving 2-year professional experience requirement).

INELIGIBILITY

NFA Members who meet the following criteria will not be eligible for NFA Prime™ membership:

- Nevada Film Alliance (NFA) annual dues is NOT current;
- Member has demonstrated unprofessional (disrespectful, rude and/or disruptive) behavior;
- Member fails to meet minimum eligibility requirements listed above.

APPLICATION PROCESS

NFA Members who believe they meet the NFA Prime™ eligibility criteria may complete the application below and mail it, along with Supporting Documents listed below, to NFA Prime™ Application, 10120 W. Flamingo Rd #4-111, Las Vegas, NV 89147. Ask questions or send electronic documents (e.g. PDF) with links via email to: app@nfaprime.com. The credentialing process takes up to ninety (90) days following receipt of a complete Application Package. Hardcopy certificate is mailed upon request.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS / CONTENT

- Picture & Sound Proof of Film Work from two (2) years on “professional” film projects (DVD or website), or equiv.;
- Two (2) Email & Phone References for Supervisor(s), Employer(s), Client(s) and/or Producer(s) of those projects;
- Resume/CV (required) + Filmography (required) printed on paper (not simply an online link);
- Business Cover Letter explaining why you are applying for NFA Prime™ status;
- Brief Biography of your filmmaking and/or company activities, accomplishments & most proven responsibilities.

NAME ___________________________ UNION/ASSOC. MEMBER: _______ □ APPRENTICE □ PROFESSIONAL □ VENDOR □ Multiple Applications (one per Job Category)
ADDRESS ______________________________________________________
TELEPHONE ______________________ EMAIL ______________________

JOB CATEGORY CIRCLE ONE in which you have most expertise with proof provided.

Project Developer 
Accountant (CPA) 
Attorney / Compliance 
Executive Producer 
Producer / Co-P / AP 
Screenwriter 
Director 
Casting Director 
Actor (Principal) 
Acting Coord. / Assist. 
Production Designer 
Art Director / Assist. 
Costume Designer 
Production Secretary 
Bookkeeper 

Production Manager 
Production Coordinator 
Production Assistant 
Props Master 
Script Supervisor 
First A.D. 
Second A.D. 
Director of Photography 
First A.C. / Steadycam 
Second A.C. / Assist. 
Gaffer / Set Dresser 
Best Boy / Carpenter 
Sound Mixer / Assist. 
Key Grip / Grip 
MakeUp / Hair / Effects 
Stunt Dance Choreographer 
Stunt Coordinator / Assist. 
Stunt Artist / Dancer 
Special Effects Artist 
Special Effects Technician 
Editor 
Composer / Arranger 
Other: 

Voice-Over Talent 
Sound Engineer 
Sound Designer 
Foley Artist 
ADR / Looping 
Music Supervisor 
Music Producer 
Music Editor 
Musician (Instrument: Scenic Artist / Matte Painter)

Other: 
Stunt Coordinator / Assist. 
Stunt Artist / Dancer 
Special Effects Artist 
Special Effects Technician 
Picture Editor 
Sound Editor 
Composer / Arranger 
Musician (Instrument: Scenic Artist / Matte Painter)

ID# ___________________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Select Committee Interview
Date ___________________________
Score1 ________     ________
Score2 ________     ________
Score3 ________     ________
TOTAL ________     ________

PASS: NO YES
To pass, applicant must have Grand Total Score above 250

See: Scoring Sheet

* NFA Select Committee = Film Industry HR Consultant, Professional Line Producer, and Masters-Level Film Professor/Producer.
Credentialing Process to Pre-Qualify Film Professionals from the General Membership of Nevada Film Alliance Inc.

www.nfa-prime.com

SCORING SHEET  OFFICIAL FORM FOR NFA SELECT COMMITTEE TO ASSESS AND SCORE QUALIFIED CANDIDATES FOR PRIME MEMBERSHIP

☐ APPRENTICE  ☐ PROFESSIONAL  ☐ VENDOR

JOB / VENDOR CATEGORY: __________________________

NFA PRIME™ CANDIDATE LEGAL NAME ______________________________________________________________________________

NFA MEMBER #_______________________

SCORE #1             SCORE #2             SCORE #3                   CATEGORY

1) Due Diligence Confirmed (basic background & experience/record)
2) Picture & Sound Proof of Work (professional production quality/association)
3) Comments from Professional Referrals (veracity & objectivity of comments)
4) Resume/CV & Filmography (level of professional experience/exposure)
5) Business Cover Letter (lucid & error-free professional level of writing)
6) Brief Biography (degree of focus on matters of passion as well as practice)

☐ Unqualified (stop)  ☐ Qualified (proceed below)  Must have a minimum combined score so far of 150 to proceed.

7) Peer Comment #1 ______________________________ (NFA member)
8) Peer Comment #2 ______________________________ (NFA member)
9) Peer Comment #3 ______________________________ (NFA member)

10) Interview (appearance/demeanor giving solid impression of quality/reliability)

TOTAL SCORES

PASS:  ☐ NO  ☐ YES

GRAND TOTAL SCORE ___________

SCORE = 300 IF THESE BOXES ARE MARKED AND VERIFIED:

☐ INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED  ☐ HONORARY INVITATION

ENDORSED BY NFA MEMBER/FOUNDER (PRINT & SIGN): __________________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

REMARKS (ADD OVERALL COMMENTS AND/OR EXPLAIN/JUSTIFY MARKED BOXES ABOVE AS NEEDED): __________________________

NFA-P App rev 130201
EXAMPLES OF OUR TOP ROSTER

EDWARD SAXON – Producer

Ed is an Oscar-winning producer (The Silence of the Lambs) with 25 years experience producing for the majors. His credits also include: Philadelphia, Adaptation, Married to the Mob, That Thing You Do, and much more. He is a graduate of the Peter Stark Masters Program in Film Production at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. His roots are in theatre, where he explored the art and craft of acting and production. Throughout his decades-long career in the movie business, Ed has worked with the greatest talent Hollywood offers, from such actors as Tom Hanks, Denzel Washington, Nicholas Cage, Meryl Streep, Danny Glover, Oprah Winfrey, Charlie Kaufman, Chris Cooper, and Forest Whitaker, to such acclaimed directors as Jonathan Demme, Spike Jonze, Victor Nunez, and Richard Linklater.

MARILEE LEAR, CSA – Casting Director

Marilee began her career as an actress at the renowned Pasadena Playhouse in the 1960s, when she was under contract with Warner Brothers and featured in such notable television shows as 77 Sunset Strip, The Beverly Hillbillies, and The Real McCoys. Through the 80s and 90s, she entered the world of casting, becoming a C.S.A. casting director and providing casting services to Warner Brothers, Castle Rock, Disney and Universal, for such notable motion pictures as Honeymoon In Vegas, Vegas Vacation, Casino, Con Air, and Mars Attacks, among others. For television, she has served the various casting needs of NBC, Aaron Spelling, Paramount, 20th Century Fox, Columbia/Tri Star, and Disney.

HOLLYWOOD HEARD – Producer / Director

Hollywood is a producer and award-winning director with experience that includes shorts, documentaries, features and more than 100 episodes of television content, including Dick Wolf’s Arrest and Trial, John Walsh’s America’s Most Wanted, and Lifetime’s What Should You Do? He has produced six feature films with budgets ranging from tens of thousands to millions of dollars. Worldwide, he has filmed on location in Egypt, Jamaica, Jordan, Israel, Mexico, Romania, Peru, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Chile, Tahiti, Australia and Okinawa. Hollywood and his crews have gone 60 feet below the surface of the Pacific Ocean; placed a speed rail dolly, 40’ of track and a porta-jib at the top of Egypt’s Great Pyramid of Giza; shot an all-night time-lapse on the rim of the volcano on Easter Island; and, rigged a camera to a 500mph fighter jet.
PHIL VALENTINE – Producer / Director

Phil is a multi-award-winning filmmaker who has been in the entertainment business for over 30 years, from performances as an actor in movies, plays and commercials, to becoming Creative Consultant and Operations Manager for Phillip Morris’s “Marlboro Adventure Team,” the largest consumer promotion in American history. Phil has written and directed shows around the world for companies such as Disney, FOX, Universal, and New Line Cinema.

ARI LEVIN – Producer / Director

Currently with Jolon Productions, Ari has produced and directed for HBO, CNN and the BBC; and has several episodes airing for both Oprah Winfrey and The Food Network. Over the years, he has worked with every major movie studio in Hollywood and a multitude of "A" list talent. Currently, he is Artistic Director for the Royal Stratford Shakespeare Players and The Starbright Theatre Company. He has produced his own shows on the Las Vegas Strip, including “Xtreme Magic” which ran for six years; “Star Trek: The Experience,” which ran for ten years; and, the 2007 NBA grand opening ceremonies.

DIANA EDEN – Costume Designer

In her thirty-year career as a costume designer, Diana has costumed some of Hollywood’s biggest stars, winning many awards for her theatre designs plus three Emmy nominations for her television work. She has designed 14 prime time TV series, 16 pilots, a dozen films, and over thirty theatre productions in both Los Angeles and New York.

ERIC PREISS – Director, Nevada Film Office (State Film Commission)

Eric is the new Director of the Nevada Film Office. A life-long resident of Nevada, he graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting. As a Nevada CPA for 15 years, he has worked for major accounting firms and held various management positions within major gaming companies. Eric’s passion about film, television and music, along with his solid financial experience, will lead the NFO into a bright future.
### NFA POSTING & NEW MEMBER ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES

**NFA POSTING & NEW MEMBER ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES**

For posting profiles, we ask that you:

- Be respectful at all times.
- Keep the content professional.
- Include current information.
- Do not post outdated profiles.

**MEP**

- *Non-Member:* Must be a Member of the NFA.
- *Member:* Must be a current paying Member.

**Artists**

- Must be an acting or music talent.
- Must include a recent headshot.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**Technical**

- Must be a Tech craftsperson.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**Advertising**

- Must be in the film industry.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**Locations**

- Must be in the film industry.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**INTERNET**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**PROPS & COSTUMES**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**DANCE**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**FUNDING**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**INSURANCE/AFFILIATION**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**MEMBERSHIP**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

- Must be a film professional.
- Must include a contact detail.
- Must include a recent credit.

**MEMBERSHIP & NEW MEMBER ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES**

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**NEW MEMBER ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES**

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**MEMBERSHIP BY CATEGORY**

**MEMBERSHIP & NEW MEMBER ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES**

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Serving members of the Nevada Film Alliance™ (NFA) and all filmmakers making movies throughout the state of Nevada.

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Las Vegas Video Productions ...... Ron Greenwood

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$10 per Quarter Page per Issue or $25 per Year (3 Issues)
FREE to dues-paid NFA members (some restrictions apply)

Reserve Space: ads@nevadafilm.ORG

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**NFA DUES**

NFA dues are completely voluntary.

Dues-paid members (only $20/yr) automatically receive access to a private, dues-paid member group page on Facebook; a copy of NFA Guide to Making Movies in Nevada (new 2014 edition);

SilverScreen newsletter in its fullest online form on a tri-annual basis, FREE print advertising in SilverScreen (some restrictions apply);

FREE consultation time from expert members; PLUS 20% OFF all NFA-sponsored events.

Pay dues online at:

www.meetup.com/nevadafilm/
www.nevadafilm.ORG

Pay dues by Check or Money Order, mailed and payable to:

Nevada Film Alliance Inc.
10120 W. Flamingo Rd. #4-111
Las Vegas, NV 89147

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