



**BRING HOLLYWOOD HOME WILL WORK TO BRING A PLACE AT THE TABLE  
FOR INDIE FILM MAKERS IN 2012 SUPPORTING GREATER TAX CREDITS &  
INCENTIVES FOR KEEPING FILM & TV PRODUCTION IN CALIFORNIA**

For Immediate Release:

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As the work to extend tax credit incentives for film and television begins again in Sacramento in the 2012 legislative session the Bring Hollywood Home grass roots effort will work to bring Indie filmmakers voices to the debate over tax credits and other incentives which can bring more jobs in film and television production and post-production to the state.

According to Variety's January 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 article, "A study issued last year by the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp. showed that in its first two years, the program has generated \$3.8 billion in economic activity state-wide, created more than 20,000 jobs and more than \$200 million in tax revenues. Opponents of the program contend that the tax credits go to already-wealthy producers and question the accuracy of the projected economic benefits."

"Indie filmmakers aren't opponents of the tax credit incentives. They support the California legislative efforts to bring tax credits to keep production and post-production in California. Indie filmmakers want to see the credits extended to more indie filmmakers in a process more transparent and open than the very limited lottery." says Sharon Jimenez, Executive Director Bring Hollywood Home a non-profit with the specific purpose of supporting film, television and commercial production in the State of California. "We are bringing serious grassroots leadership in this work to save the industry and the future jobs for the students in the state."

"Independent producers are capable of hiring so many independent contractors who will bring more jobs to California. We're shooting ourselves in the foot if we don't offer more opportunities for independent producers. Ancillary businesses benefit and they create more jobs building opportunities in a plethora of creative industries. Film and Television is California's communication portal to the world. We have to fight for the jobs indie productions can create." says Beverly Nero, President, Beverly Nero Productions.

"Film provides a tremendous opportunity for young entrepreneurs; we need to do a much better job in providing them the opportunity to develop projects here in California." says Polo Munoz Youth Outreach LA Latino International Film Festival.

"The studios need to step up and support the tax credits going to indie filmmakers and producers



in a unified way so the taxpayers of California can see the money going to a wide range of entrepreneurial small businesses and not only corporate interests. We all need to show unity.” explains Gary Visconti two-time Olympian and eight time past president of Southern California Olympians.

“In 2012, Susan Touchbourne will be filming the \$5 M feature, *Prairie Bones*, in a state other than California because the tax credits are 10% higher than what California offers. The same will be true for her \$20 M feature, *Crashing Wall Street*. Multiply this \$25 M loss to California by the number of other producers who, like Susan, would prefer to film locally but cannot for economic reasons. When will California wake up to the fact that jobs are going elsewhere because other states and countries are giving a better deal to filmmakers?” declares Susan Touchbourne, Producer, *It Starts With a Story Productions*.

“California needs to return to the years where young filmmakers have the opportunity to see their talents flourish. Independent producers can create the jobs needed in the state and return California to the supremacy once enjoyed as the place where films are produced. Legislation giving incentives to independent producers with transparency and startup capital will provide the youth of the State of California access to their birthright.” declares Dr. Juan Rodriguez Flores, *Latino Weekly Review Executive Editor*.

"It's embarrassing that California, which for the past 100 years has been the largest provider of Entertainment content for the planet, is unable to establish a comprehensive consistent and user friendly tax credit for film and television production. Especially in today's economy, the State of California would heavily benefit from an incentive that would put more people to work and stimulate business across the board beyond any other package or solution available to us now. And the time is now.” says Martin Guigui, President *Sunset Pictures*.

"In California during the early twentieth century, "Hollywoodland" was created by many entertainment entrepreneurs, giving rise to studio systems. Migrants soon flooded Hollywood, making Southern California the birthplace of television and motion picture programming. It only seems fitting that during these trying economic times, we pay tribute and support those who provided a foundation for not only the entertainment industry, but the growth of the entire state. This wealth of opportunity started with the gold rush, but is now currently home to producers, filmmakers, writers, journalists, union and craft workers, and countless other professions who must provide for their families and depend on the jobs leaving the state. California can't ignore its history. Lawmakers need to act now to stop the hemorrhaging of jobs in film and TV.” says Stephen Seidel, actor and creator/host of *Renegade Reporting*.

The Bring Hollywood Foundation has been working to bring attention to the urgent plight of film and television industry workers in California. The phenomenon of so called runaway production



continues to negatively impact jobs and families in California as productions continue to be lured to other states and countries with aggressive tax credit lures.

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