OREGON FILM & VIDEO OFFICE
Legislative Briefing – Ways & Means [2015-2017 Biennium]

STATUTORY AUTHORITY AND MISSION
The Oregon Film & Video Office (Oregon Film) is a semi-independent state agency, created by statutory authority under ORS 284.300 to 285.375.

The mission of the Film & Video Office is to promote statewide development of the film, video, multimedia and creative content industry in Oregon and to enhance the industry’s revenues, profile, and reputation within Oregon and among the industry nationally and internationally.

For the 2017-19 biennium Oregon Film has been asked to take a 15% reduction in our CSL operating budget, passage of which will severely curtail many of its ongoing efforts listed below.

WHAT WE DO
With a staff of 4 FTE and a 2015-2017 biennial budget of $1,164,460 we:

- Market Oregon as a filming location, recruit out-of-state productions, and serve as a liaison to productions to help navigate permits, access or other production-related concerns.
- Support and build on a thriving indigenous film, video, multimedia and creative content industry.
- Administer Oregon Production Investment Fund (OPIF) and Greenlight Oregon (GOLR) incentive programs.
- Support and advise the state’s public and private higher educational institutions as they prepare their students for a future in the media industry.
- Track and report on the economic impact of the industry and industry-related programs.
- Work with other governmental entities to create and streamline filming access and regulations.
- Perform project audits for participating companies.
- Promote public/private partnerships to help the creative content industry and its small business economy.
- Encourage creative community building.
- Serve as a spokesperson for the industry, both within and outside of the State.
- Event sponsorship, participation and promotion.

BENEFITS TO OREGON
The creative content industry benefits Oregon in a wide variety of ways:

- **Economic Impact.** Due to increase in activity over the 2015-2017 biennium, the direct spending on creative content production has continued to rise.

  Tracked Qualified Spending on Film and Media Production in Oregon for the 2013-2015 Biennium was over $300million, we expect that number to increase to over $350million for the 2015-2017 biennium.

  This does not include the many commercial productions that do not come through the incentive system but shoot here in the state. This is estimated at more than 100 productions of various sizes per year.

- **Industry revenue is spread throughout various sectors of the economy.** The average creative content production does significant business with hundreds of local vendors per production including hotels, rental cars, lumber yards, hardware stores, office supplies, clothing stores, furniture and antique stores, grip and lighting equipment, and many more.

- **Economic impact is felt throughout the state.** The impact is felt statewide with features like LEAN ON PETE (Harney Co), BLACK ROAD (Ashland), and THE WATCHMAN’S CANOE (Coos Bay) which employ cast & crew and engage vendors on a local level for every day of the shooting schedule.

- **The creative content industry provides living wage jobs with benefits.** On the film & television series that are in production in Oregon, the average hourly wage is over $25/hour. A full time worker can earn health benefits for up to two years on one production.

- **Promotional value –** Still to this day, tourists travel to locations like Astoria for THE GOONIES, Brownsville for STAND BY ME and Cottage Grove for THE GENERAL which celebrated their 30th and 90th anniversaries in 2016. In addition, Oregon Film worked closely with PDX airport to open a 6 month exhibit of artifacts from Oregon produced projects like ANIMAL HOUSE, ONE FLEW OVE THE CUCKOOS NEST, THE GOONIES, WILD, PORTLANDIA, and THE LIBRARIANS. Newer promotional opportunities have also come from shows like DEADLIEST CATCH: DUNGEON COVE (Newport & Coos Bay) and GOLD RUSH (Baker Co).
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Legislative Briefing [2015-2017 Biennium] (cont.)

During the 2015-2017 biennium, Oregon Film has successfully recruited and assisted numerous creative content projects here in Oregon. The following are a few examples of successful projects produced throughout Oregon in the last two years:

LEAN ON PETE (FEATURE FILM)
The UK Produced independent feature LEAN ON PETE is based on a novel by Portland author Will Vlautin and shot in North Portland, Molalla and Harney County working with vendors in 50 of the 90 legislative districts in the state. Release should be forthcoming in 2017.

GREEN ROOM (FEATURE FILM)
The visceral but critically acclaimed and award winning feature film starring Patrick Stewart shot in Astoria, Clackamas and Portland and was released in the Spring of 2016.

KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS (FEATURE FILM)
This critically acclaimed and award winning stop-motion animated feature is the fourth from Hillsboro-based Laika who consistently get nominated for Academy Awards.

PORTLANDIA (SEASON 6 & 7)
The Lorne Michaels (SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE) produced comedy sketch series concluded its sixth and seventh seasons of shooting and has been broadcast on the Independent Film Channel with consistently rising ratings. The local crew has won numerous Emmy awards while the show itself continues to bring attention and notoriety to the state.

THE LIBRARIANS (SEASON 2 & 3)
The hit Electric Entertainment series for TNT completed its second & third seasons in Oregon while employing more than 300 crew members and engaging with more than 350 local vendors.

INTERACTIVE GAME DEVELOPMENT
During the 2015-2017 biennium, interactive game companies grew in clusters in places like Eugene, Newberg, Oregon City, Bend and Portland. Many of these in-state headquartered companies have utilized our programs to develop and complete numerous original games leading to the growth of a permanent workforce. A total of 10 interactive projects participated in iOPIF generating nearly $10M of in-state spend.

GRIMM (SEASON 5 & 6)
The hit NBC series completed its fifth and sixth seasons in Oregon which has resulted in 123 episodes, over $300million in direct spending, and the engagement of over 1,200 local vendors across the state.

GRANTS, ENTREPRENUERSHIP & BRANDING
The inaugural Oregon Filmmaker’s Residency Award was given to Cambria Matlow. Awarded in conjunction with NW Film and Playa Summer Lake this award will help develop new work from Oregon Filmmakers. In addition we have teamed up with a 501(c)(3) charity to create and sell branded “Oregon Made” merchandise to created a granting fund for small and micro-budget Oregon media projects.

OREGON-WIDE EVENTS & FESTIVALS
Oregon Film also directly supported several of the state’s premiere film festivals in places like Bend, Ashland, La Grande, and Klamath in an effort to not only highlight local talent working within the state, but projects being shown in the state for the first time. In addition, OFVO supported many independent events that, in turn, supported the filmmaking and surrounding communities in places like Lakeview, Cottage Grove, Brownsville and Burns.

VIRTUAL AND AUGMENTED REALITY
Oregon Film was instrumental in launching Oregon Story Board which has now become the epicenter of VR and AR education and production in Oregon. This quickly emerging technology is about to change how we experience media and OSB, along with Clackamas Community College, was one of only 5 entities in the country to receive a substantial grant for this work from Microsoft.

ANIMATION
Since the 1970’s, Oregon has cultivated a hub for quality animation. And now it is a recognized leader in the animation community worldwide. Leading the way is Laika who released its critically acclaimed KUBO & THE TWO STRINGS in August while other local companies like House Special, Bent Image Labs, Hive FX, and Hinge Digital continue to create quality, award winning animated content for a rapidly growing audience. Animation is now an internationally recognized export commodity for Oregon, and even established companies are finding a home here - the Los Angeles-based, award-winning company ShadowMachine opened an office in Portland in 2016 employing hundreds of workers on a new animated series for Comedy Central called JEFF & SOME ALIENS.

EDUCATION
Creating opportunities in the media industry has been a driving force in Oregon Film’s efforts and, to this end, we have worked closely with higher educational facilities like the University of Oregon, Portland State University, Southern Oregon University, Clackamas Community College, Portland Community College while also supporting the educational outreach efforts of non-profits like Oregon Story Board, Portland Workforce Alliance and Portland Community Media. Oregon Film also organized and sponsored a unique pilot programs for High School students to get hands on “shadow” experience on the sets of the TV series GRIMM, PORTLANDIA and THE LIBRARIANS.

EVENTS
During the 2015-2016 calendar years Oregon Film supported more than 100 screenings, festivals and community building events in partnership with other state agencies like Travel Oregon, Oregon Parks & Rec, Business Oregon, Oregon Arts Commission and the Oregon Cultural Trust; while also supporting other non-profit partnerships with organizations like the Oregon Media Production Association, Southern Oregon Film and Media, Central Oregon Film Office, The Hollywood Theatre and NW Film Center. Some of these projects were successful in receiving grants from various sources like the Travel Oregon Matching Grants Program, The Oregon Community Foundation and the Cultural Trust.

For more information, visit oregonfilm.org.