

Lancaster Production Company Invests \$436,000 to Produce Movie in Midstate Region

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HARRISBURG – A central Pennsylvania production company that spent five months and nearly half a million dollars in the Harrisburg area is the latest example of the economic development potential of the state’s burgeoning film industry.

“Another Harvest Moon,” set to be released in June and starring Cybill Shepherd, Ernest Borgnine and Doris Roberts, was shot on location at the former Harrisburg State Hospital by Aurora Films and Music of Lancaster. Shooting also took place in York Haven and post-production work was done in Lancaster.

The production required 144 days of work in the area and 478 hotel room nights for cast and crew. The project injected more than \$436,000 into the local economy in return for which it received a film tax credit for approximately one-quarter of that amount.

“Not only is Pennsylvania’s film tax credit enticing movie production companies to the state, it’s bringing them to many places within the state,” said Department of Community and Economic Development acting Secretary George Cornelius. “Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are popular destinations, but, as ‘Another Harvest Moon’ proves, there are many other Hollywood-worthy locations in the commonwealth that companies are using to help tell their stories.”

“This is new revenue Harrisburg and Pennsylvania would not have received had we not offered production companies the opportunity to write off some of their expenses,” said Mickey Rowley, DCED’s deputy secretary for tourism, film and marketing. “Besides the new business for area hotels, the work on this movie generated new income opportunities for caterers, supply companies, restaurants, dry cleaners and car rental firms.”

Robert Black, the project’s producer, said the state’s film tax credit was a key factor in the company’s decision to work in Pennsylvania.

“The film tax credit made it possible for us to shoot the film on our budget,” said Black. “Without the incentive, we would not have been able to make this movie in Pennsylvania. With it, we would definitely shoot another movie in Pennsylvania. As a matter of fact, we are hoping to start another project, soon.”

Another Harvest Moon LLC received a film tax credit of \$108,964 for spending at least 60 percent of its total budget within Pennsylvania. Subject to certain limitations and exclusions, the tax credit equals 25 percent of the production costs of the movie incurred in Pennsylvania.

“Another Harvest Moon,” tells the story of four elderly Americans coping with life in a nursing home. Besides Shepherd, Borgnine and Roberts, the movie includes Piper Laurie, Anne Meara and Richard Schiff.

Student interns from Millersville University of Pennsylvania and Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster County benefited from real-world experience helping with the production.

Since its inception in 2007, Pennsylvania’s incentive for production companies to work in the commonwealth has helped to create nearly 3,100 jobs and has generated \$186 million in direct spend and more than \$12 million in new state tax revenue.

Projects eligible for the film tax credit include production of a feature film, a television film, a television talk show or game show series, a television commercial, a television pilot or each episode of a television series intended as programming for a national audience. A project is eligible if at least 60 percent of the project’s total production budget is used for qualified Pennsylvania production expenses.

For more information on the film tax credit or other Department of Community and Economic Development programs, visit www.newpa.com or call 1-866-466-3972.

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