



# FILM DAY 2025

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## The Future of Film in Washington Is In Focus

### *Investments in Local Filmmakers and Crew Build Capacity and Sustainability*

With all the legislative requirements in [RCW 43.365](#) now activated Washington's film industry is benefiting from bigger budget productions in state, new workforce development programs, a funding program to support emerging local filmmakers and expanded resources in the film office. Here's a snapshot of incredible work that [Washington Filmworks](#) (WF) has supported this fiscal year.

During this reporting period, WF supported **5 production incentive projects and 2 small budget production projects that were creatively driven by local filmmakers**. Since WF launched in 2006, the organization has supported 139 projects which have created nearly **30,000 jobs for local workers** and generated **\$462.5 million economic activity** across Washington State.

Our enhanced incentives for filming in rural communities and telling the story of historically underrepresented communities continue to set Washington apart from other jurisdictions. **Projects that qualified for enhanced incentive were filmed in 30% of rural counties across Washington State** including Clallam, Grant, Grays Harbor, Kittitas, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Whitman and Yakima counties. Many of these projects were commercials that filmed in rural counties and spent money with local restaurants, hotels and main street shops. To support filming in rural counties, 51% of the 150 new locations added to the [location database](#) were in rural counties. The film office used these assets to market the state to **potential clients such as Amazon, MAX, NBC Universal and Tyler Perry Studios**.

The Small Budget Production Initiative (SBPI) is a program that invests in the future of film in Washington State. The SPBI is **designed to support emerging resident filmmakers** with early stage funding commitments and funding assistance on projects budgeted between \$20,000 - \$1 million. Since launching the program in May 2023, **30 projects have been approved for funding assistance** and 16 of these projects have started or completed principal photography. These projects include short films, narrative and documentary features, as well as episodic series.

Launched in September 2023, WF launched a workforce **development program to support emerging narrative filmmakers from underrepresented communities** focused on job training. A [cohort of 30](#) emerging Washington State directors and producers representing 17 unique cities across the state participated in a 12-week educational forum. In a post program survey taken **100% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the program will help them move their film career forward**. WF also launched the FWD Funding Initiative which **invested \$49,000 in 5 businesses** across Washington State that were **supporting job training and job placement** opportunities in their community.

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