



California's Film & TV Tax Credit Program 2.0 Gains First \$100 Million-Plus Feature

*Disney's "Wrinkle in Time" Selected Via Program's Expanded Eligibility for Big-Budget Films;
Latest \$109 Million in Credits Allocated to 28 Projects*

Hollywood, Calif. – August 2, 2016 – California's expanded Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0 has scored its first big-budget film project, signaling a milestone in the state's effort to combat runaway production.

Disney's "A Wrinkle in Time" is among the 28 projects selected as part of the first feature film allocation for year-two of the program. It is the type of "tentpole" film previously ineligible under the state's first-generation tax credit program (Program 1.0), which did not accept projects with budgets greater than \$75 million. In contrast, Program 2.0 is open to film projects of any budget (though credits are capped to each studio-produced film's first \$100 million in qualified spending).

"A Wrinkle in Time" will bring \$85 million in qualified spending to California. Nearly 400 cast and crew members will be employed, with \$44 million in wages paid to below-the-line workers.

"The California tax credit made it possible to base production in California," said Producer Jim Whitaker. "We considered several other locations, but felt that the spectacular landscapes and intimate, real settings found in California perfectly met Ava DuVernay's directorial vision for 'A Wrinkle in Time.' The entire crew is incredibly excited as we all appreciate the ability to come home to our families at night."

Adapted from the classic 1963 fantasy novel by Madeleine L'Engle, the film is set on multiple planets across the universe. Disney plans to shoot much of the film outside the Los Angeles 30-Mile Zone.

"Large-scale feature films like 'A Wrinkle in Time' are among the most at-risk for runaway production," said California Film Commission Executive Director Amy Lemisch. "California's expanded tax credit program is working as intended, and this project alone will employ hundreds of in-state crew members and visual effects artists."

The first feature film application period for year-two of Program 2.0 was held June 27 – July 8. It drew 91 applications vying for \$109 million in tax credits. A total of 28 projects – 18 from studios and 10 from independent production companies -- were selected. Based on data provided with each application, these projects are on track to spend a total of \$880 million in-state, including \$326 million in qualified wages to more than 5,900 crew and cast members.

In addition to announcing Program 2.0's first big-budget feature film, the list today is notable for including at least five projects ("A Wrinkle in Time," "Friday the 13th," "Magic Camp," "Rogue," and

“Private Benajmins”) that will shoot extensively outside the Los Angeles 30-Mile Zone.

“Program 2.0 contains provisions designed to encourage production across the state, and this latest round of film projects demonstrates that we’re achieving our goal,” added Lemisch.

The complete list of feature films approved as part of the latest allocation round is attached. Note the list is likely to be revised, as applicants may withdraw from the program and their tax credits reassigned to those currently on the wait list.

The next application period for California’s Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0 will be held November 14-29 for television projects.

How Projects are Selected and Awarded Tax Credits Under Program 2.0

Projects approved for California tax credits are selected based on their jobs ratio score, which ranks each project by wages to below-the-line workers, qualified spending for vendors, equipment, etc., and other criteria. The top 200% ranked projects in each round (i.e., those that would qualify if double the amount of funding was available for the current allocation round) are evaluated, and those with the highest-ranked jobs ratios receive tax credits. Those not selected are placed on the waiting list. The program allocates funding in “buckets” for different production categories, including non-independent feature films, independent films, TV projects and relocating TV series. This enables applicants to compete for credits directly against comparable projects. As has been the case since the state launched its first-generation tax credit program in 2009, the California Film Commission awards tax credits only after each selected project: 1) completes post-production, 2) verifies that in-state jobs were created, and 3) provides all required documentation, including audited cost reports.

About California’s Film and Television Tax Credit Program 2.0

On September 18, 2014, Governor Brown signed bipartisan legislation to more than triple the size of California’s film and television production incentive, from \$100 million to \$330 million annually. Aimed at retaining and attracting production jobs and economic activity across the state, the California Film and TV Tax Credit Program 2.0 also extends eligibility to include a range of project types (big-budget feature films, TV pilots and 1-hr TV series for any distribution outlet) that were excluded from the state’s first-generation tax credit program. Other key changes include replacing the prior lottery system with a “jobs ratio” ranking system that selects projects based on wages paid to below-the-line workers, qualified spending (for vendors, equipment, etc.) and other criteria. Program 2.0 also offers an additional five percent tax credit for non-independent projects that shoot outside the Los Angeles 30-mile zone or have qualified expenditures for visual effects or music scoring/track recording. More information about California’s Film and Television Tax Credit Program 2.0, including application procedures, eligibility and guidelines, is available at <http://film.ca.gov/incentives>.

About the California Film Commission

The California Film Commission enhances California’s status as the leader in motion picture, television and commercial production. It supports productions of all sizes and budgets, and focuses on activities that stimulate and preserve production jobs, spending and tax revenues in California. Services include administration of the state’s Film & Television Tax Credit Program, permits for filming at state-owned facilities, an extensive digital location library, location assistance and a range of other production-related resources and assistance. More information is available at <http://www.film.ca.gov>.

###

Contact: Erik Deutsch, ExcelPR Group (for the California Film Commission)
(323) 851-2455 direct / (310) 597-9245 cell / erikd@excelpr.com

Program Year 2 - Allocation # 2 Conditionally Approved Projects

	Production Title	Company	Project Type - Feature
1	105 and Rising	Rising Movie, LLC	Independent
2	A Star Is Born	WB Studio Enterprises, Inc.	Non-Independent
3	Action Park	Paramount Pictures Corporation	Non-Independent
4	Entry Level	Content Media Corporation	Non-Independent
5	Force	Paramount Pictures Corporation	Non-Independent
6	Friday the 13th	Paramount Pictures Corporation	Non-Independent
7	Game Night	New Line Productions, Inc.	Non-Independent
8	Get It While You Can	Get It While You Can Productions, LLC	Non-Independent
9	Hide (PTC)	Intrepid Pictures Development Company, LLC	Non-Independent
10	Home Invasion	Paramount Pictures Corporation	Non-Independent
11	Hotel Artemis	Ink Factory, Inc.	Independent
12	La Llorona	Mutiny Pictures, Inc.	Non-Independent
13	Magic Camp	Ultimo Films, Inc.	Non-Independent
14	Miles	Lakeshore Entertainment Group	Independent
15	Monolith	Lions Gate Entertainment, Inc.	Non-Independent
16	Newsies Digital Capture	Buena Vista Theatrical Group, LTD	Non-Independent
17	Overboard	Sneak Preview Productions, Inc.	Independent
18	Plus One	Lions Gate Entertainment, Inc.	Non-Independent
19	Private Benjamins	New Line Productions, Inc.	Non-Independent
20	Quick Draw	Content Media Corporation	Non-Independent
21	Rogue	Films 5 Entertainment LLC	Independent
22	Russ & Roger	STX Filmworks, Inc.	Independent
23	Sandy	Sandy Production, Inc.	Independent
24	Tag	New Line Productions, Inc.	Non-Independent
25	The Young Ones	Sneak Preview Productions, Inc.	Independent
27	Untitled WWE Studios Project	WWE Studios Finance Corp.	Independent
26	Valley Girl	Sneak Preview Productions, Inc.	Independent
28	Wrinkle in Time	Tesseract Productions, Inc.	Non-Independent