

# **VT Film & Creative Media Industry Testimony**

Chad Ervin & Brian Carroll - Vermont Production Collective



# What is Vermont Production Collective?

VPC was established in 2021 by working professionals, to support established and aspiring artists in film production and related fields. We exist to facilitate collaboration, mentorships, networking, and more.



## **BUILDING COMMUNITY**

Hosting community gatherings, film screenings and other events

## **SUPPORTING EDUCATION**

Designing and running programs, skill sharing events, panel discussions and workshops. Working with higher education institutions to create new learning opportunities

## **FOSTERING COLLABORATION**

Working with established creative sector organizations and local businesses to grow together, creating networks for creative partnerships

## **GROWING CREATIVE ECONOMY**

Establishing a database of creative industry contacts, resources and jobs within the state of Vermont, creative workforce development and retention

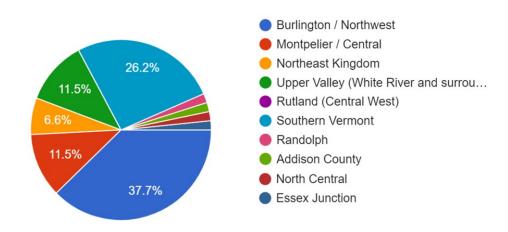
# Our Current Landscape



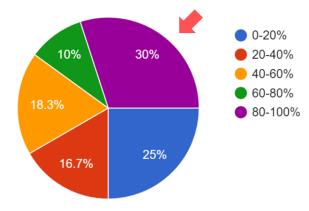
# **The Vermont Community**

- VPC recently conducted a survey of our filmmaking and creative industry community.
- **78%** of respondents said they work within the *film production/visual media* landscape

Location - Which location is closest to where you work/call home?



What percentage of your creative work occurs, or is based, out of state?



- There is a robust community of film/creative sector professionals in ALL of our communities, state-wide
  - A good portion of work from Vermont creatives is being found out of the state



# The Vermont Community - Opportunities and Needs

"...innovation and a creative culture are vital elements of the Vermont brand"
H.C.R. 28 (Act R-44)

### So, what can we do/what are the needs?

- A central film and creative media office and database that will help to supply the knowledge and support of how to successfully manage film productions and creative sector projects in the state
- Tools that facilitate connections to other creators in the state in order to work together, to local businesses in need of creative work and a job listing site to find/share opportunities
- Mechanisms for attracting/making it easier for larger productions to work here AND to find professionals in the state to hire

The people polled through this survey (VPC's network) are all professionals working in the field and based in the state. They have made it consistently clear to us that a centralized resource, through which they can make connections and find more work, is a key first step to advancing the film industry in the state.



## **Out of State Production...**

## Challenges

**NO real Film Office/Contact Point, Database** OR State Film incentives (this is a *big deal* to studios, location managers, producers)

### **Basic infrastructure**

NO real Security company (having to bring in MA company was a large undertaking and expensive).

NO real Police to communicate with. Street closures are a big consideration with films and production has a need for police presence.

NO internet service or cell service

Lodging limitations

## **Benefits / Positive Aspects**

**Enthusiasm** - Everyone was there to greet me with a "yes, how can we help" approach rather than a "maybe, how much"? This was huge and so appreciated

Cost friendly- Filming costs for parking, vendors, holding, locations- about 1/2 of what you would pay in Boston MA

### **Vendors**

Note: They were all communicative, professional and ALL on par with what we use in MA

A major studio with all the resources they could need had issues just getting basic things done. Imagine smaller production with much smaller budgets trying to get things done.



# **Local Impact - ECGS Letter of Support**

When Beetlejuice 2 came to town, the East Corinth General Store became its central hub. Not cause they shared information, asked for our help and were very clear they wanted to integrate the concrew was. We ended up being on a first name basis with most everyone and even had them been stored in the concrew was a support of the concrew was.

The financial benefits from the production were significant:

- Our daily sales increased on average \$1500 a day for the months leading up
- We experienced 3-4k in increased daily revenue during the 3 days of shooting.
- Due to the increase in traffic to the store, we were able to offer more hours to our
- I was asked to compile a list of extras from the community to be in the filming. It was
  that the estimated 50 plus extras were paid for their time.
- Building materials and cement blocks were donated to us from Charlestown Production

The Flood of July 10th best illustrates the support we felt from the Beetlejuice team. As the flood joined in with the rest of our community. We didn't need to ask them. They showed up and offer at bay, saving the store. These people were not strangers who kept to themselves. They were fi were our community.

Production Crews, like Beetlejuice 2, provide communities with local jobs, increased revenue, d working during slow seasons. They also bring tourism, The original Beetlejuice (1988) still bring. Corinth that Beetlejuice 2 will bring. I would happily work with a movie production again and beli everyone.

Renee Salomaa, East Corinth General Store

- -Daily sales increased on average \$1500 A DAY for the months leading up to production and a month after
- -3 days of filming (with increased foot traffic /tourism boost) there was a \$3-4k boost in daily revenue
- The crew became part of the community, lending a hand, being friendly and the benefits are evident

# **The Database**



## **Database - What is it?**

# Crew / Support Database

- Find specialized crew roles
- Verified Listings
- Vendors: Catering, Accommodations, Security

# **Locations Database**

- Find locations for film shoots
- Searchable Nationally
- Ease of Planning

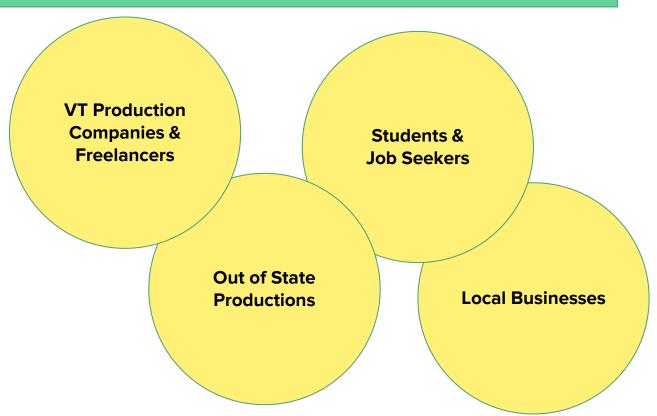
## **Job Database**

- Staff jobs from local employers
- Centralized, Industry-specific Internship opportunities.
- Pipeline of talent

Connect Professionals. Connect Businesses. Connect Jobs.



## Database - Who will use it





# **Database - example : crew + services**

DIRECTORY > CREW

**CREW LISTING** 

Display Option ##

Sort By Name | Last Updated

ACCOUNTING - Assistant

REID, OCTAVIUS TED

West Central, PA

2015: The Shaggy Dog

2008: Curious George

2010: Home Run

#### SEARCH FILTERS DIRECTORY > CREW CREW LISTING Please note: Our state is a right to work state. Crew mer Location Display Option == = Sort By Name | Last Updated COUNTY **ACTING** - Choreographer Anjence, Fiona 🛑 🔘 🍩 ART DEPARTMENT - Art Department Coordinato Brightwater, Rilley ART DEPARTMENT - Storyboard Artist WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS Anjence, Fiona 🔵 🔘 🌑 MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESS COSTUME / WARDROBE - Costume Designer Faulkner, Ben GREEN COMPANY **MUSIC** - Writer UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (UCP) Brightwater, Rilley SET DECORATION - Leadman KEYWORD Brightwater, Rilley Search Tips Green Company Minority-Owned Business Search Unified Certification Program (UCP) Women-Owned Business



Valley We

Valley We







Please note: Our state is a right to work state. Crew members are not re

Gatsby 2010: Home Run





...

Fiona Anjence Benstone Productions, LLC 123 Maple Street

Ackerly, TX 91523 % View File / Resume (PDF)

CONTACT INFORMATION O

Contact this person/company ONLY if you are interested in hiring them for their services. Do not contact them to solicit your services or products or to inquire about job openings.

Ves Lunderstand. Proceed to contact. DIRECTORY > CREW > ANJENCE, FIONA

#### CREW LISTING

Weblinks ACTING - Choreographer Website ART DEPARTMENT - Storyboard Artist YouTube Channel Vimeo Channel Description Works well with animals. Special Skills & Experience Created Digital Elevation Models, using acquired LiDAR points Draped 2D digital photographs over a computer generated 3D surface Compiled Meta Data for client based on contract specifications Managed multiple projects on short lead times while leading a team of Imagery Analysts Digital camera operator for aerial photography acquisition Photoshop & AutoCAD editing Handled multiple product changes to accommodate changing customer specifications **ACTING** - Choreographer ART DEPARTMENT - Storyboard Artist 2021: The Haunting

2023: The Marksman

2021: If Only (Paramount) 2012: Haunted River 2011: Once and Future King

#### Affiliations

Location Managers Guild International (LMGI)

No Affiliations

#### Color Code Key

Texas Film Commission's Expatriate

 Green Company Minority-Owned Business Unified Certification Program (UCP)

Women-Owned Business



North Central, PA 2017: Sorry Monologue 2013: The Last Stand 2009: 2009: Date Movie



North Central, PA 2016: I need a job 2014: Iron Man 3 2013: The Great Gatsby



# **Database - example : locations**

492 locations

Sort By Last Modified V Display 24 V

#### Location Categories

Enter or select categories

#### ▼ Location Name / ID

Location Name Location ID

#### Geographic Area

Select Region Select County Select City/Town

Zip Code

#### Proximity

Any Distance City/Town, State, Zip Code

#### · Architecture Style

#### Keywords











Delta Dental Stadium



Maison O (The Round House)





1802 Saddle Hill Farm



Walpole Tranquility Farm



DoubleTree Nashua



Bedford Public Library



Belmont Public Library



Berlin Public Library



Bethlehem Public Library



GEP Dodge Library



Large Antique Farmhouse Property



Barrington Public Library



Bartlett Public Library



Bath Public Library



Griffin Free Public Library



Kimball Library



Ashworth by the Sea



James A. Tuttle Library



Thayer Public Library



Hampton Inn Littleton



Holiday Inn Salem



Simple, intuitive and easy to navigate

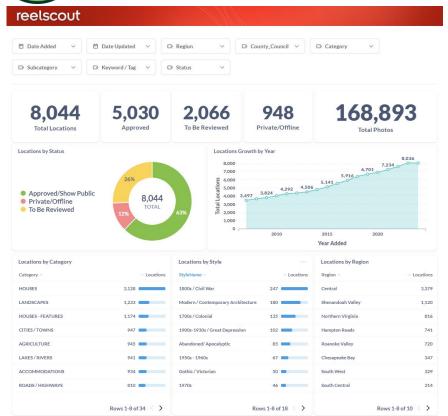
Clear info, photos available

Search by location. category and proximity to areas

\*Included in nationwide data search



# **Database - example dashboards**







## **Foundation of Future Work**

A self sustaining film and media ecosystem in Vermont

**Partnerships** -Expanding capabilities to other creative sectors (i.e. music)

**Workforce Development** -Jobs are easier to discover, hire for and share via a job board/database

**Education** -Connecting points for collaboration and unmet needs

**Economic development** - VT attracts more productions from out of state that help grow the industry and state economy

## DATABASE