

November 2020 Edition



DIRECTORS CUT

Greetings New Mexico Film Community!

We are excited to relaunch our newsletter where NMFO will provide updates; spotlights on crew, vendors, and locations; information; and a roundup of news, resources, and opportunities

Since March, we have been busy fielding an extraordinary amount of inquiries for film and television productions looking to shoot in New Mexico, working with the industry to develop **COVID-Safe best practices** to return to set, updating and streamlining internal procedures and processes, retooling and developing new marketing communication strategies, administering the Senator John Pinto Memorial Native Filmmaker Fund, teeing up workforce training programs and much more.



Effective September 2020, the New Mexico Film Office began processing film and television production registrations for the film production tax credit. Pre-production, post-production, principal photography, and physical production work is cautiously operating with COVID-Safe Practices in place. Production is

governed by the state's operative public health order to ensure the health and safety of workers and all New Mexicans.

Just diving into production now? A great place to start is with our **Back2One**, catchall document which includes a set of principles, recommendations, and resources for productions.

Since September, seven productions have been filming across New Mexico including the Netflix feature film **The Harder They Fall**, an episode of the Sony Pictures Television and Amazon Studios production **THEM**, the third season of the Warner Bros. series **Roswell, New Mexico**, and four independent feature films, **Canyon del Muerto**, **Captive**, **The Commando**, and **Slayers**.

There continues to be a high interest in filming in New Mexico and a strong pipeline of productions in the months ahead and well into 2021.

In October, we announced a new video series titled the Film Scene. It is our intention that this will be a way for NMFO to stay in touch with the film community all across New Mexico at regular intervals throughout the year as well as provide trainings and educational series. A replay of the October meeting can be found at **<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n9OI9nITPjk&t=47s>**

The New Mexico Film Office is always here to serve and support our state's film industry and community and we invite you to reach out to us anytime.

Amber Dodson, Director

RECENT PRESS RELEASES

Five Production Support Businesses Expand to Support New Mexico's Film Industry

Over the last year, five new major production service support businesses have located or expanded to a new facility in New Mexico to be a part of the rapidly growing film and television industry.

The growth in business-support services is one of the untold stories of the film industry and likely one of the reasons an independent survey found film and television had a favorability rating of 70 percent, the third highest among 17 industry sectors in New Mexico.

[Read full press release](#)

New Mexico Film Office Supports Training Program for Background Actors

New Mexico's Film Crew Advancement Program Provides Training to New

Mexico's Film Crew

The New Mexico Film Office announced support for a new workforce development program, to train New Mexico background workers in the film and television industry. The program, The Industry Forum, will be free to New Mexico residents. Those who participate in the program will learn about the film industry and how to be a professional background actor from experts in the industry.

The Industry Forum is a collaboration between Alessi Hartigan Casting, the Background Actors Association of New Mexico (BAANM), and Hartigan Productions with support from the New Mexico Film Office. Program funding to cover participant costs for The Industry Forum is sourced from workforce development training funds.

[Read full press release](#)

The New Mexico Film Office (NMFO) Director, Amber Dodson announced that in Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20), NMFO had 135 participants in its Film Crew Advancement Program (FCAP). FCAP is a workforce development program, aimed at providing career advancement training for New Mexico's film crew.

FCAP is managed and administered through the New Mexico Film Office and is intended to increase skill sets and the hireability of New Mexico residents in the film and television industry and emerging media related jobs. Training is meant to provide New Mexico residents with high-wage jobs, and support economic growth in New Mexico.

[Read full press release](#)

Film Schools Across New Mexico Receive Funding Through New Mexico Film Office's Giveback Program

The New Mexico Film Office (NMFO) announced 20 film programs at higher education institutions throughout New Mexico have received a total of \$330,000 in funding from the Non-Resident Below-the-Line Crew Credit Program. Funds will be utilized to purchase equipment, software, materials, supplies, and can be applied to student scholarship programs and other student opportunities.

New Mexico Film Community Takes the New Mexico Safe Promise

Over the last several weeks many famous New Mexicans and film and television industry cast and crew members have taken the NM Safe Promise and voluntarily participated in providing public service announcements for the campaign.

Those who have taken the NM Safe Promise include, Jason Isaacs and Andy Greenwald of NBC Universal's show Briarpatch, Jesse Tyler Ferguson of Modern Family, as well as Better Call Saul cast members, Giancarlo Esposito, Rhea Seehorn, Jonathan Banks, and Patrick Fabian and George RR Martin.

SPOTLIGHT

CREW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Derek M. Chavez

Derek M. Chavez, a native New Mexican from Albuquerque, was first introduced to the film industry when his mother was renting furnished housing to film and television production crew members in Albuquerque. While working with production members of Employee of the Month, Derek joined his mother to visit the set. Unsure of his career direction at the time, meeting the stars had a major impact on Derek that was unshakable. "It gave me a glimpse into another world and I started to realize that's where I wanted to be," said Chavez.



In 2009, Derek was offered a job as a Production Assistant on the Starz show, Crash. "At the time, I had no real direction for my career other than knowing I was capable of much more than the life I was living. I showed up without a clue of how anything worked, but I knew this was my shot at building a better life. FCAP incentivized the show to take a chance on a kid that just needed a break," said Chavez. "I came in early, left late, and soaked up everything I could every single day. I was at the bottom of the pecking order, making endless copies, getting producer's coffee and trying to keep up with constant tasks. I received good advice early on to treat everything like it was the most important thing I'll do that day."

Since 2009, Derek has moved up in the industry rapidly due to the New Mexico Film Office's Film Advancement Crew Program. Productions that Derek has served on that took advantage of the New Mexico Film Office's Film Advancement Crew Program include:

- Jackie – Production Secretary
- Geronimo – Production Secretary
- Longmire Season 1 – Payroll Clerk
- Lone Survivor – Assistant Production Coordinator (APOC)
- Frank – Assistant Production Coordinator (APOC)
- Jane Got A Gun – Travel Coordinator
- The Condemned 2 – Production Coordinator

"There is no doubt that the FCAP program has helped get me where I am today. The program incentivized many different shows to take a chance on me, and has opened doors for me. I am very grateful," said Derek M. Chavez.

In 2012, Derek was accepted into IATSE Local 480. "That was an enormous deal for me at the time. Being accepted into the union awarded (sic) me benefits such as healthcare and a 401k."

Recently, Derek has worked to help get the new NBCUniversal (NBCU) production studio in Albuquerque up and running and is working for NBCU as a Production Supervisor.

Derek also serves as the co-chair of the IATSE Local 480 Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

Derek's dream is to continue to grow in his career and eventually become a UPM and Producer.

CREW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Michael Garcia

Michael made his initial connection to the film industry when working for Southwest Studio Services, renting out air conditioners and heaters to location departments for various television shows. When delivering or picking up equipment, Michael would meet and interact with members of Teamsters Local 492.

After learning more about the role Teamsters play in the film industry, Michael wanted to work in the film industry, so he enrolled in Rocky Mountain Truck Driving School taking classes at nights and on weekends to earn his class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL).



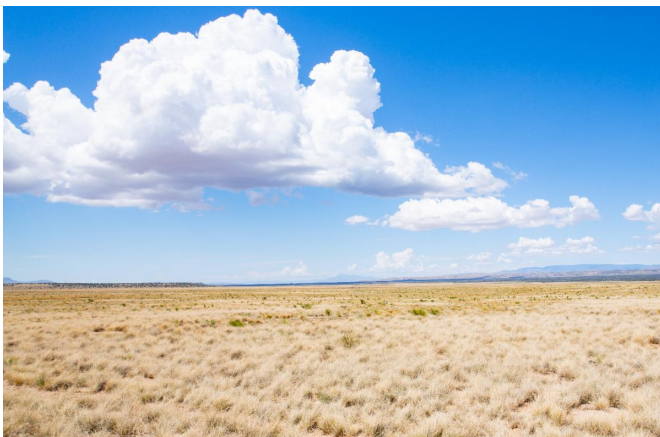
After receiving his license in 2011, Michael landed his first job in the industry on the production *In Plain Sight* as a picture car assistant. That experience got Michael's foot in the door and the 30 days experience on a production that is required to join Teamsters Local 492.

With now over 10 years' of experience in the industry, Michael has worked his way up the transportation career ladder. Productions that Michael has served on that took advantage of the New Mexico Film Office's FCAP Program include:

- Glow with the Flow – Transportation Coordinator
- The Brave: Season 1 – Picture Car Coordinator
- Benefactor Productions – Picture Car Coordinator
- The Minuteman – Transportation Captain
- Will Gardner – Transportation Captain

"FCAP has been a great experience for me and delivered great results for my career," said Michael Garcia. "The program gives New Mexico film workers the opportunity to become leaders in the industry and has given productions more of an incentive to hire New Mexicans that have the knowledge and skills but lack the experience and connections."

Want your story to be featured in a future newsletter? Email jennifer@nmfilm.com



Highlighting Our State:

New Mexico

Located in the southwest of the United States, New Mexico is a film and television production hub.

New Mexico offers a highly competitive tax incentive, a governor who is a champion of the industry, a well established industry network, film friendly communities and businesses, a deep, educated, hard-working, talented, and experienced crew, higher-education programs that are fueling the workforce pipeline and evolving to meet industry needs, and unique assets that can't be replicated anywhere else (90 minute flight from L.A., four distinct seasons, talented crew base, film friendly communities)

Furthermore, New Mexico is the fifth largest state in the US by area. However, it is the sixth most sparsely populated territory in the country. Low population density means plenty of space for social distancing! In New Mexico, you can keep your cast and crew safe and healthy while you work.

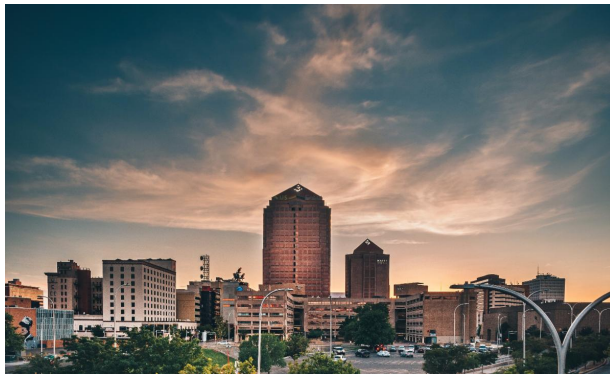
New Mexico is filled with urban, suburban, mountain ranges, deserts, forests and other worldly landscapes. New Mexico has doubled for places like Los Angeles, New York City, Atlanta, Wyoming, Mars and many other places proving that New Mexico is the place to be for film and T.V.!

Contact the **New Mexico Film Office** today if you are interested in learning more about our film friendly state and tax incentives.



Shiprock, NM - Photo by [Adam Nish](#)





Downtown Albuquerque, NM - Photo by [Adam Nish](#)



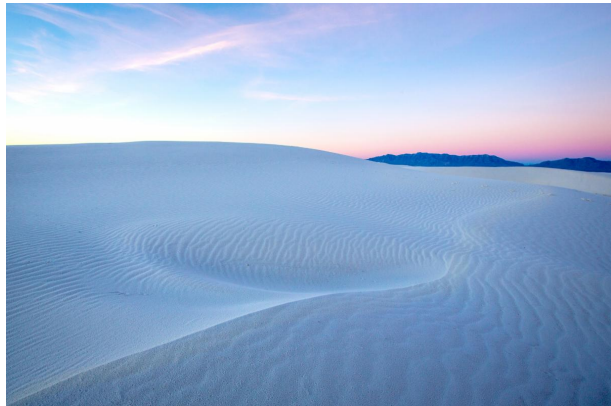
Very Large Array - Socorro, NM

Do you want your corner of New Mexico to be featured in our newsletter? We do too!
Email jennifer@nmfilm.com

LOCATION SPOTLIGHT:

White Sands National Park

Like No Place Else on Earth. Rising from the heart of the Tularosa Basin is one of the world's great natural wonders - the glistening white sands of New Mexico. Great wave-like dunes of gypsum sand have engulfed 275 square miles of desert, creating the world's largest gypsum dunefield. White Sands National Park preserves a major portion of this unique dunefield, along with the plants and animals that live here.



The bright white sand dunes of White Sands make a perfect backdrop for both commercial filming and photography. Throughout the years, many feature films, car commercials, fashion photography, and more have used the gypsum dunes as their setting.

Commercial Film and Photography permits are issued for photography, filming, and associated sound recording to ensure protection of resources, to prevent significant disruption of normal visitor uses, or when they involve props, models, professional crews and casts or set dressings. Permits are required for access to areas normally closed to the visiting public.

Because of restrictions due to COVID-19 and to keep people safe during the pandemic, White Sands National Park is currently not issuing film permits.

Call the park or visit the website www.nps.gov/whsa for information and a current status of permits.



Photo by Adam Nish



Transformers



Today Show (Pre-COVID image)

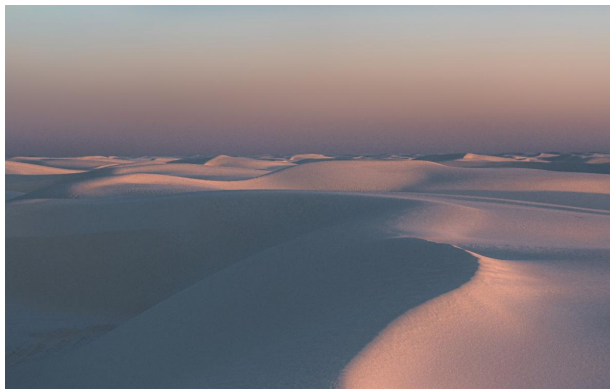


Photo by Adam Nish

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT:

Lobo Protective Services

Lobo Protective Services, LLC, founded in 2017, is New Mexico's premier security company providing professional security services to the film and television industry.



The owners of Lobo Protective Services, David Carvajal and Adrian Chavez Sr. have over 10 years combined experience and strive to provide quality, proactive security services to all film and television productions.

"Our guards are challenged daily to maintain the highest level of professionalism and integrity. Observe and report is the bare minimum. We and our employees greet the cast and crew coming and going with a smile and a wave. We believe it is our responsibility to go above and beyond expectations. We are proud of our employees' work ethics and dedication," said Adrian Chavez Sr.

Lobo Security provides well paying jobs and added benefits of health insurance to many New Mexicans.

Chavez added, "We are committed to hiring New Mexicans and growing film community!"

Lobo Protective Services has provided set security to numerous projects and recently has gained industry recognition from NBCUniversal, where Lobo Security provides services to the studio in Albuquerque.

In 2020, Lobo Protective Services created a Sanitation Division providing E.P.A. Certified, and Green Certified products in accordance with industry standards in order to ensure we keep New Mexico sets healthy and safe.

For more information on the company visit
<https://loboprotectiveservices.com/>

Want your film support service business to be featured in a future newsletter?
Email jennifer@nmfilm.com

IN THE NEWS

**NMFO Announces Film Crew
Advancement Program Provides
Training to New Mexico Workers**

Los Alamos Daily Post 11/01/2020

**New Mexico Film Office Lists
Halloween Themed Film and
Television Productions Shot In
New Mexico**

Los Alamos Daily Post 10/30/2020

Cosmetic careers: ABQ Institute prepares students to work as film makeup artists

Albuquerque Journal 10/30/2020

Economic Development Department says film industry crucial to state

KRQE 10/28/2020

New Mexico film industry starting to bounce back

KOB 10/22/2020

First film production since March kicks off in New Mexico

KRQE 9/28/2020

Interactive film wall at Sunport showcases New Mexico's film industry

KRQE 9/17/2020

NM film productions give \$330K to 20 schools

Albuquerque Journal 9/9/2020

NM Film Office stays busy as it plans how to safely resume production

Albuquerque Journal 9/4/2020

Author, soldier, cowboy chronicled changing West

Santa Fe New Mexican 08/28/2020

WHAT'S FILMING

The Harder They Fall

- Netflix
- The production will employ approximately 500 New Mexico crew members and 312 New Mexico vendors, including background actors, stunt performers, and principal talent.
- Filming October - December 2020
- Santa Fe, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

THEM

- Co-produced by Sony Pictures Television and Amazon Studios
- The production employed approximately 250 New Mexico crew members, 8 New Mexico principal actors and 50 New Mexico extras.
- Filmed October 2020
- Santa Fe, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

Roswell, New Mexico S3

- Warner Bros. Television and NM Talent Inc.
- The production will employ approximately 275 New Mexico crew members and 2,200 New Mexico background and extras.
- Filming October 2020 - April 2021
- Santa Fe, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, and Madrid, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

Canyon del Muerto

- First Line Films LLC.
- The production will employ approximately 120 New Mexico crew members, 25 principal New Mexico actors, and 200 New Mexico background and extras.
- Filming October - December 2020
- Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Farmington and Gallup, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

Captive

- Pollen Path Entertainment
- The production employed approximately 27 New Mexico crew members, 4 principal New Mexico actors, and 15 New Mexico background and extras.
- Filmed October 2020
- Albuquerque, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

The Commando

- Al Bravo Films and Premiere Entertainment
- The production employed approximately 35 New Mexico crew members, 7 principal New Mexico actors, and 15 New Mexico background and extras.
- Filmed October 2020
- Albuquerque, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

Slayers

- With Teeth LLC
- The production will employ approximately 35 New Mexico crew members and 4 principal New Mexico actors.
- Filming November 2020
- Albuquerque, NM
- **[Read full press release](#)**

OPPORTUNITIES

Casting Calls

CASTING CALL

WHAT: Christian/Drama

A series that follows the lives of three individuals trying to stay on the graceful path of life.

Casting: 8-10 yrs hispanic/latino girl

50-70 yrs bi-racial/african-american female

10-12 yrs hispanic/latino boy

Contact for additional information

CONTACT: TGP Casting Team – thegracefulpath@gmail.com

CASTING CALL

WHAT: Drivers and Vehicles, 100+ vehicles needed, with driver, to work in many scenes, ages 18 to 80!

LOTS OF VEHICLES NEEDED (DRIVABLE) 1960'S TO 1978 Rate of pay for driver \$120.00 for 8 hrs.

PLUS \$250.00 for the vehicle;

WHERE: Albuquerque area

WHEN: Nov. 4-Dec. 16

CASTING CALL

WHAT: Casting a Fantasy Adventure Feature Film

This is a SAG MPA with many roles and age ranges. Submit all ethnicities please. May consider NU actors with experience and credits.

WHERE: Northern NM

WHEN: Mid Spring 2021

CONTACT: Additional Info: Please go to www.DannyWinn.com/treeecrets Review the storyline and present casting. Follow direction to character breakdowns and submission process.

CASTING CALL – "And Some Will Die" (Working Title)

WHAT: Horror

5 LEADS: Male and Female 18 – 24

NEW MEXICO LOCALS ONLY / Paid Positions / Non-Union

Must be outgoing, Ability to Dance, Sing and play a guitar a plus!

Send headshots and contact info to:

CONTACT: cjmontoya@tierrafilmsentertainment.com

CASTING CALL – "The Graceful Path" Season 3

WHAT: web series; Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, Stareable, etc.

25-40 yrs bi-racial/African-American male

25-40 yrs Hispanic/Latino female

25-40 yrs Caucasian male

25-40 yrs bi-racial/African-American female

CONTACT: TGP Casting Team - thegracefulpath@gmail.com

CASTING CALL - "Eminent Domain"

WHAT: Audio Fiction Project

Galisteo Productions is looking to fill multiple roles in a major dramatic *audio* fiction project for Audible Originals:

Hispanic/Chicana/Latina Females, Able to do New Mexican accent, age range 20-80

Hispanic/Chicano/Latino Males, Able to do New Mexican accent, age range 20-45

White Males, accent unspecified, age range 30-80

White Female, accent unspecified, age range 20-40

Male, Able to do Scandinavian accent, age range 35-65

Hispanic/Chicano/Latino Males, Able to do youthful (teenage) New Mexican accent, Age range 18-26

WHERE: Santa Fe area.

WHEN: Casting is on-going with recording tentatively set for early – mid November.

CONTACT: Galisteoproductions@gmail.com with 1. Resume 2. Demo reel if available 3. 30 secs to 1 minute audio recording demonstrating accent (if specified)

Crew Calls

CREW CALL

Production Company: Dare To Dream Films

WHAT: Fantasy / Adventure film. Looking for all Crew positions. In negotiations with a few Director's and DP's but we are still open to submissions for these as well.

WHERE: Santa Fe, Northern NM

WHEN: Spring 2021

CONTACT: www.DannyWinn.com/treesecrets

CREW CALL

Production Company: ORSD, LLC

About: Need PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS soon for Upcoming Feature

WHEN: Nov 2-Nov 23

WHERE: Albuquerque, NM

CONTACT: nmcopshop@gmail.com

CREW CALL: On Set Sanitation Tech

Company: Protexus Sanitation Solutions

WHAT: Looking for on set sanitation techs for up coming production. Would like some set experience and will train.

CONTACT: protexusclean@gmail.com or (512)920-3381

WHEN: ASAP

WHERE: ABQ and surrounding areas

Employment/Volunteer Opportunities

The Navajo Nation TV & Film Office is seeking applications from dynamic and self-motivated candidates for a Media Production Technician.

Comprised of three sections – film, television and media productions. Navajo Nation TV & Film (NNTVF) believes that media plays a crucial role in creating an environment of active citizenship that encourages

social responsibility and public spirit. Media then, in both access and content, is critical to the health and livelihood of Navajo Nation citizens, communities, business and more.

CONTACT: For more information and application submission, contact the Navajo Nation Department of Personnel Management at (928) 871-6330 or via email at apply@dpm.navajo-nsn.gov.

www.navajonationtvandfilm.com

For more info on these and other opportunities visit nmfilm.com frequently.
To post an opportunity visit <https://nmfilm.com/submission/>

EVENTS



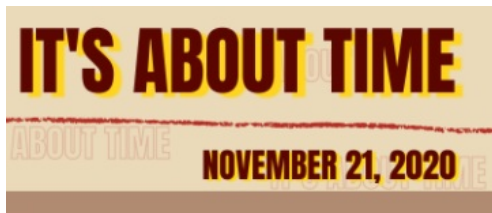
Las Vegas Film Festival

First Annual Celebration of Film and Literature

Presented by REEL Las Vegas

November 1st, 8th, and 15th

[More Information](#)



Silver Bullet Productions: It's About Time

A panel featuring prominent Native American actors

November 21, 2020

[More Information](#)

To list your event email info@nmfilm.com with details.

New Mexico Film Office (NMFO)

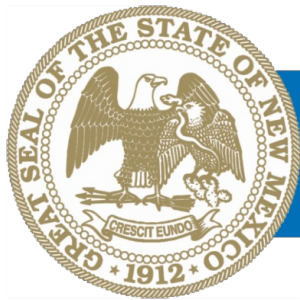
www.nmfilm.com

info@nmfilm.com

505.476.5600

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DEPARTMENT

NMFO is a division of the [New Mexico Economic Development Department](#)