Open for Business

Oklahoma’s Film + Music Sector

Oklahoma’s central location, diverse landscapes, professional workforce and low costs for living and business make it a formidable partner for the film, television and music industries.

- Oklahoma’s motion picture and sound recording industries deemed essential businesses in 2020
- 65 film and television productions received funds from the state’s incentive program, creating 14,000+ hires
- $200 million has been injected into the state’s economy, benefiting 74 Oklahoma communities

(July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2021)
Film and television production is emerging as one of Oklahoma’s leading industries. While many films that get released both nationally and internationally in theaters or on streaming platforms are produced by some of Oklahoma’s own talented content creators, other major motion pictures and television successes include A24’s Academy Award-winning film “Minari,” Participant Media & Focus Features’ “Stillwater,” FX’s television series “Reservation Dogs,” Lionsgate’s “American Underdog” and Apple’s “Killers of the Flower Moon,” to name a few.

Oklahoma continues to build on its competitive business landscape. In 2021, the Filmed in Oklahoma Act created one of the most competitive film incentives in the nation. Beginning at a 20% rebate, productions have the opportunity to earn a higher percentage by increasing production in the state.

Rebate uplifts:
+ 3% for 25% filmed in a rural county
+ 2% for 25% filmed in a small municipality
+ 5% for 25% filmed at an Oklahoma certified soundstage
+ 2%-5% for TV productions
+ 5% for multi-film deals
+ 3% for post-production, including music recording and licensing
**OKLAHOMA Music**

62% increase in Oklahoma’s music business since 2014

Music has long been an integral part of the Oklahoma experience. From Garth Brooks to the Flaming Lips, Oklahoma is home to legendary crew and rising stars of all genres. Our growing music scene continues to garner national attention. Historic venues, state-of-the-art recording studios and talented music business professionals make Oklahoma the perfect place to create your next music project.

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**Business + Infrastructure**

3 certified soundstages with 1.3+ million square feet of stage facilities

As a result of increased film and music productions, multiple private and public partnerships have been formed with local businesses and organizations investing in vital infrastructure and educational programs to further support the thriving film and music industries in Oklahoma.

- New and expanding state of the art visual and audio post production facilities
- 525+ registered companies in the Oklahoma Production Directory, including critical production needs (camera, grip & electric, catering)
- 730+ registered companies in Music Directory, including recording, tour and post-production services, and performance venues
- Business relocation and expansion opportunities available

Photo below: Score recording at Castle Row Studios
Ready to Work

Thousands of Oklahomans work in the state’s film, television and music industries. The state is working to grow the locally trained workforce through programs including expatriate recruitment efforts which welcomes former Oklahomans back to the state to work in these industries. Oklahoma’s robust apprenticeship programs provide film and television productions with talent and help grow the state’s pipeline of master tradespeople.

- More than 20 Oklahoma universities, colleges and technical schools offer specialized industry programs and workshops.
- Public/private partnerships are expanding training opportunities and workforce development.
- The Oklahoma Film + Music Office helps productions find crew by posting current job listings, including cast/crew/company calls, internships, volunteer opportunities and more.

Locations + Film Friendly Communities

12 ecoregions form America’s most diverse terrain.

Located in the heart of the United States, Oklahoma is equidistant from Los Angeles and New York City. With 12 distinct ecoregions, Oklahoma is one of the country’s most diverse states with almost 70,000 square miles of land that varies from its trademark Great Plains to unexpected mountains as well as lush urban cities, rural towns, forests, sand dunes, plateaus, waterfalls and everything in between.

The Oklahoma Film Friendly Certification Program helps filmmakers know where to find production-ready communities in the state. Each certified community has completed program requirements including designating a film liaison, establishing a film permit and identifying filming locations.

The list of certified ‘film friendly’ communities continues to grow with 14 certified communities announced in 2021. Some of these communities have their own local film offices and offer local film and television incentives.

For more information, contact:
Oklahoma Film + Music Office
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LEARN MORE AT: okcommerce.gov/film-music