

CHOOSE COLUMBUS

GEORGIA



For **FILM & DIGITAL MEDIA**

WHY THE COLUMBUS REGION FOR FILM?

Up to 30% Georgia production tax credit

Hundreds of locations in the Columbus Region

Free scouting assistance

Skilled and growing crew base

Competitive pricing, availability and quality from production suppliers and support vendors

Easy access from Columbus Airport, Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and Interstate 185

Temperate climate for year-round shooting

Columbus was one of the first cities that the Georgia Film Commission certified as ‘Camera Ready’ – a plus for production companies looking at destinations to make a movie. In fact, there have been several major movie scenes shot in Columbus over the years including “Need for Speed,” “We Were Soldiers,” and “The Fighting Temptations.”

Recently, the Columbus Region has been garnering attention for film production. In 2016, a company called Fun Academy Motion Pictures began laying the groundwork to become a major player in the animated motion-picture industry, with plans to launch an animation studio locally over the next couple of years. Already, Fun Academy and its founder, executive producer Richard Lanni, are working on the company’s first animated film to be released in 2018, called “Sgt. Stubby: An American Hero,” with expectations that it will be the first of many such movies in the coming years.

The region is also home to a number of conferences, events and festivals that are helping fuel our growth in the creative economy. One such event is Creative South, a four-day conference held each April, which brings together hundreds of the most talented graphic designers, hand letterers, developers, photographers and digital artists from across the globe. The Way Down Film Festival, which started in 2016 showcasing short films and celebrating the most innovative voices in narrative, animation, documentary, and experimental categories, is another major driver of imagination and inspiration for burgeoning film producers from around the world.

GOOD TO KNOW:

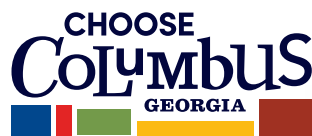
Georgia offers the nation’s best film tax credit – up to 30% – which provides a major incentive for production companies to film in the state.

Workforce & Training

Georgia is now the number one filming location in the world for movies. So it’s no surprise that it also boasts a workforce of more than 100,000 people tied directly or indirectly to the film and media industry, with average salaries of \$84,000 and many in the industry earning more than \$150,000. Industry growth over the next three to five years is projected to generate 3,000-5,000 new jobs in Georgia, most of which are on set.

To meet the growing need for certified on-set production employees, Columbus State University’s Department of Communication offers the 18 credit hour On-Set Film Production Certificate, one of the first programs of its type in the state, to train film/TV students to be job-ready upon graduation. The certificate curriculum includes an introduction to the film industry, specialized training and hands-on experience in the areas of on-set film production skills, professional equipment and on-set procedures.

In partnership with the Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce, the Springer Opera House, the Columbus Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the Georgia Film Academy, the program graduated its first class of students in November 2016 and anticipates graduating 100 students by the end of 2017.



We do amazing.

1200 6th Avenue | P.O. Box 1200
Columbus, GA 31902-1200
(706) 327-1566
www.choosecolumbusga.com