

**Seattle Film Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, November 27, 2023, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM**



**Seattle Film Commissioners:** Beth Barrett, Laura Jean Cronin, Lowell Deo, Champ Ensminger, Tom Florino, Mark Freid, Michael Huang, Kat Ogden, Melissa Purcell, Anthony Tackett

**Staffed By Office of Economic Development:** Chris Swenson, Taylor Durand-Scaggs

*Note: As always, these are "raw minutes notes" based on the discussion of the 09/25/2023 meeting and do not include every word spoken - not a literal transcript - merely a summary of ideas.*

### **Roll Call**

- Quorum confirmed

### **Public Comment**

- Kim Lowe, SAG AFTRA Seattle Local – States her presence, no additional comment

### **General Order of Business**

- SIFF Cinema Grand Opening
  - Seattle Film Commission acknowledges SIFF and announcement of December grand opening of SIFF Cinema Downtown (formerly Cinerama)
- Review and approve 10/23/23 meeting minutes
  - Unanimous vote to approve
- Review of past commitments and events
  - Seattle Film Commission + Music Commission annual meeting – November 15
    - Budi Mulyo: SMC is not as clear as to their goals as SFC; understand there is not a similar emerging tech position on the SMC, and they aren't prepared for what's coming
    - Michael Huang: SMC has been around for a long time, have done great work that has touched him personally and professionally. Need to find the spaces that do work between commissions. Overlapping items on the Ven diagram, some won't work and some will. Opportunity for us to lead, and space for them to lead on other things. A lot of opportunity to accomplish great things together.
    - Tom Florino: Recommend considering creating an executive committee between the three commissions, Seattle Film Commission and Seattle Music Commission and Seattle Arts Commission.
    - Mark Freid: Propose finding a couple focus projects that would be good to work together on.

- Beth Barret: Loved the meeting with Seattle Music Commission. Propose working across commissions to find what items we can work on together.
  - Melissa Purcell: Recommend SMC and SFC meeting near the beginning of the year once we have our plans together then a meeting in the fall, longer than just the 90 minute meetings.
  - Laura Jean Cronin: Believe there is opportunity to overlap with both the Music and the Arts Commissions.
  - Kat: Ask that the coordinated work between commissions scheduled and supported by OED.
- Preview of upcoming commitments and events
  - Washington Filmworks Annual Industry Update - 6:00 PM December 7 (virtual)
  - SFC Summit & Movie - January 2024
  - 2024 City of Seattle Creative Economy Career Day – February 2024
  - 2024 AFCI - March 2024
    - Proposing a panel with Seattle Film Commission and Washington Filmworks
    - Working to finalize plan with the AFCI board now
    - Expected to be in the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> week of March
- Committee and workgroup updates
  - Economic and Workforce Development (Tom Florino)
    - Three-pronged plan
      - Promoting independent productions
        - Seattle Film Commission can perform convening, showing local vendors and production companies, on how to take advantage of local resources
      - Promoting commercial and industrial production
        - 2024 Q1 test concept: Collaborative opportunity to educate. Bring several Film Commissioners in the room with Amazon and global managers, ask what they need and what resources are available. Take this experience to other local companies, developing into broader corporate discussions
      - Attracting major productions
        - Work with OED and other film office organizations to keep local production work and companies working here
  - Policy (Mark Fried)
    - Presents draft of priority recommendations
      - Finalizing with Committee and Executive Committee
      - Delivering to full Commission in December
  - Marketing, Branding and Initiatives (Beth Barrett)
    - 2023 branding will begin
    - 2024 January build talking points and workplans
    - 2024 Q1 present workplan publicly
    - 2024 Q2 begin mixer and outward branding models, leading into Creative Economy Career Day and AFCI
- 2023 SFC Year-End report
  - Released January 2024, will include Committee priority recommendations and issues addressed in 2023
- January 2024 City Council – Committee presentation and meeting incoming Councilmembers

- OED working to identify process for scheduling these meetings

## **Presentations**

- King County Creative (Kate Becker)
  - See attached presentation deck
  - Tom Florino: Asks if Harbor Island Studios may be available for a Career Day site visit; asks about EV chargers or solar panel availability
  - Budi Mulyo: Has LED screen opportunity recommendations; would like to see about inviting tech workers as potential producers or bankrolling some production
  - Anthony Tackett: Thanks for the Seattle Film Institute tour; would like to discuss other schools for tours; requests another open house
  - Chris Swenson (OED): Requests coordination of marketing and outreach with City of Seattle, and share with Seattle Film Commission as it is a stated priority; Request working with City of Seattle film office on development of permit platform and release to public
- Creative Economy Career Day (Connors & Co./OED)
  - See attached presentation deck
  - Michael Huang: Interested in what type of underserved community outreach is happening outside of Seattle, would like to connect
  - Laura Jean Cronin: Would like to connect regarding multiple education organization recommendations
  - Budi Mulyo: Seattle AI Society meeting in December, might be a good connection; want to connect with immersive art component; recommend reaching out to Apple and Meta; would like to connect in general
  - Kat Ogden: Recommend ensuring labor unions are a part of the program

## **Office of Economic Development**

- 2024 City of Seattle Supplemental Budget update
  - City Council has approved the 2024 supplemental budget
  - Budget includes ongoing \$10K funding for Seattle Film Commission beginning in 2024
  - Budget includes \$1.5M “skill up” workforce development funding
- City production office space @ KCTS building
  - Continuing work to use the building in part as film production office space
  - Filmmaker survey to come once finalized

## **Upcoming**

- January presentation ideas

## **Adjourn**

- Motion to adjourn – Unanimous vote to approve



SEATTLE FILM  
COMMISSION  
MEETING  
11/27/23

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**King County**

Office of Economic Opportunity & Creative Economy



39 cities

12<sup>th</sup> largest county in US

2.3 million residents

Unincorporated King  
County = 250,000 pop

Regional film liaison  
network

Executive Constantine +  
9 elected County  
Councilmembers

9 Council districts

Seattle is the County seat

# KING COUNTY FILM INITIATIVE TIMELINE

- **2019 – Launch of King County Creative Initiative**
- **Fall 2019 – Launch of King County Film Initiative**
- **2020 – Harbor Island Studios development begins**
- **2020 – 15 member Film Advisory Board is appointed by Executive Constantine**
- **2021 – Episodic series shoots in Harbor Island Studios for 4+ months**
- **2021 – King County Council allocates \$3M to Harbor Island Studios development**
- **2022 – King County Council establishes film and music production as County priorities**
- **2022 – King County Council allocates \$2.2M for capital improvements at Harbor Island Studios**
- **2023 – King County establishes Office of Economic Opportunity & Creative Economy**



**ASHTON  
ALLISON**  
Economic  
Opportunity  
Director



**KATE  
BECKER**  
Creative  
Economy  
Director



**AMIE  
DANIELEWICZ**  
Economic  
Opportunity  
Manager



**ANDREA  
LARSON**  
Executive  
Assistant



**SUSAN O'  
SURFACE**  
Executive  
Analyst/Project  
Manager



# Harbor Island Studios Property Managers



Mark Zandberg, King County Property Manager



Nate Brend, Harbor Island Studios Facility Manager

## **EXECUTIVE'S FILM ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS (EFAB):**

[Peter Barnes](#), Retired Studio Owner, Clatter & Din

[Tony Becerra](#), Director, DGA

[Vicky Berglund-Davenport](#), Location Manager/Producer, LMGI, WA Filmworks

[Buzzy Cancilla](#), Commercial Producer

[Michelle Flowers-Taylor](#), Actor, Producer

[Cheo Hodari Coker](#), Producer/Showrunner/Writer

[Cynthia Geary](#), Actor

[Megan Griffiths](#), Director, DGA

[Susan LaSalle](#), Director/Producer, DGA

[Lacey Leavitt](#), Producer/Director

[Melissa Purcell](#), IATSE Local 488 Northern Business Agent, Prop Master

[Eddie Rehfeldt](#), Producer/Location Manager/Studio Developer

[Isabella Price](#), Langston/Seattle Black Film Festival

[Nasib 'CB' Shamah](#), Producer/Director

# HELLO!



**HARBOR ISLAND  
STUDIOS**



48 Hour Film Project



# HARBOR ISLAND



# STUDIOS

- 117,000 sq ft total
- Stage 1: 13,500 sq ft
- Stage 2: 9,500 sq ft
- 5 production offices
- 18 movable production spaces
- High speed internet
- Onsite facility manager
- Green screen
- Golf cart
- Overnight security
- 40 parking spots onsite; more nearby

# HARBOR ISLAND



**S T U D I O S**

- **Feature films**
- **Episodics**
- **Commercial work**
- **Corporate work**
- **Music videos**
- **Short films**
- **Film industry networking**

# HARBOR ISLAND



**S T U D I O S**

## **INCENTIVES:**

**4 key values that influence Harbor Island Studio rental cost:**

- **Local job creation**
- **Diverse cast & crew**
- **Green filmmaking**
- **NextGen opportunity**









# 2024 OUTLOOK

## **HARBOR ISLAND STUDIOS**

- Full roof replacement and sound insulation – Spring 2024 or 2025 (TBD)
- Construction of carpenters' shop (Spring 2024)
- Systems development 2024
- Marketing plan launch – Q1 2024
- New communications strategy
- Marketing/sales trips

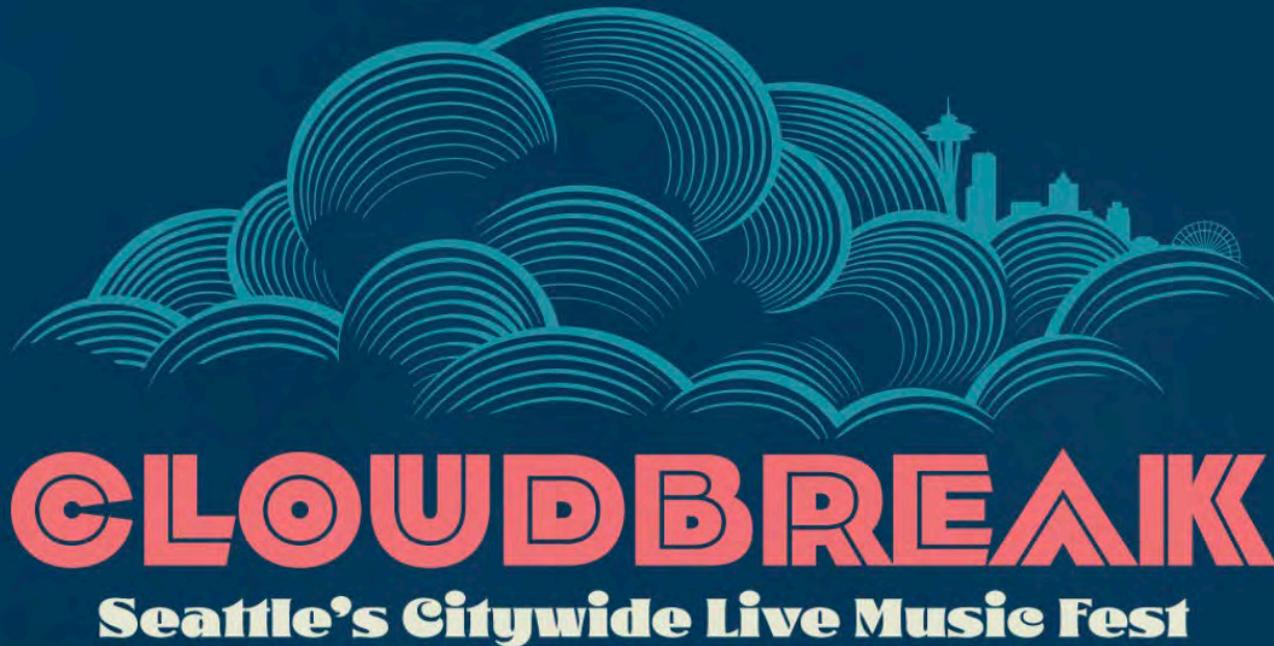
## **KING COUNTY FILM INITIATIVE**

- New website in development; January 2024 release planned
- New permitting system & portal in development; Q1 2024
- Monthly film industry focus sessions
- Regional liaison consulting/presenting
- Film permitting throughout King County
- Film Ecosystem Study in partnership with Seattle OED

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION WITH SEATTLE FILM COMMISSION**



**November**  
**1-22, 2023**

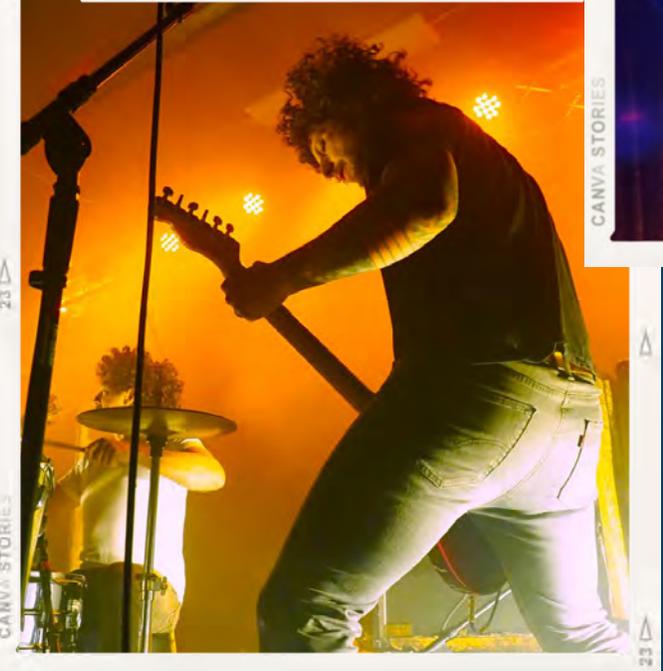


**2022 Cloudbreak Music Festival:**

- Partnership with Visit Seattle
- Music tourism initiative
- 29 venues & 70 downtown hotels
- 151 bands & musicians
- 297 verified downtown hotel guests
- \$207,900 paid to local musicians

**2023 Cloudbreak Music Festival:**

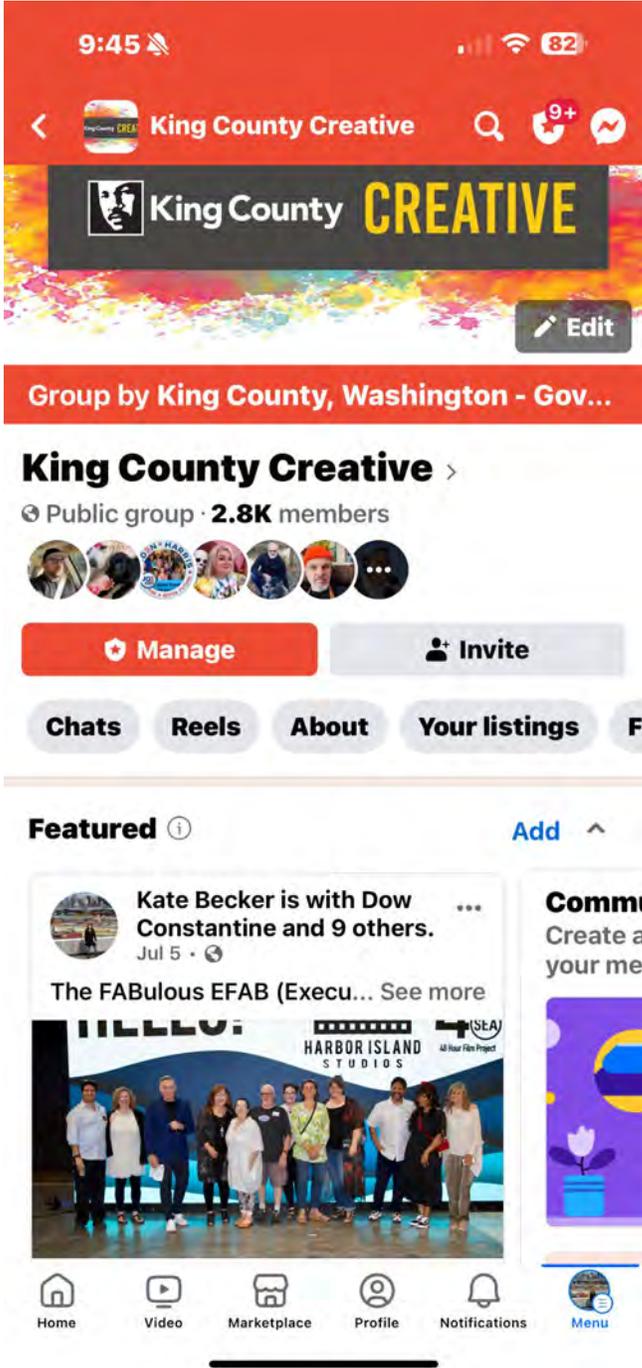
- Partnership with Visit Seattle & City of Seattle
- 31 venues & 71 hotels
- 150+ bands & musicians
- 70 shows
- 11/1/23 – 11/22/23



# King County Creative Connector



- Monthly newsletter
- Regular social media
- [kingcountycreative.com](http://kingcountycreative.com)





# King County



Kate Becker  
Creative Economy Director  
Office of Economic Opportunity & Creative Economy  
Office of King County Executive Dow Constantine  
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[www.kingcountycreative.com](http://www.kingcountycreative.com)  
206-669-4524



# CREATIVE ECONOMY CAREER DAY

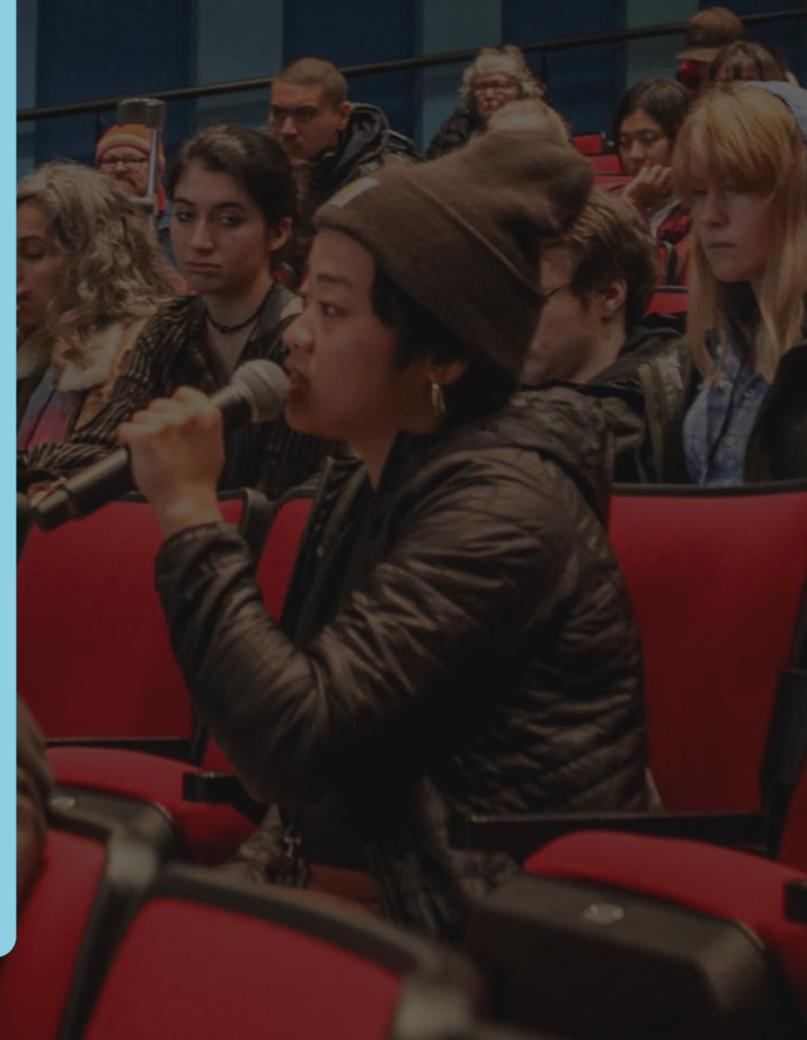
**FEBRUARY 9th, 2024**

# CREATIVE ECONOMY CAREER DAY

## REIMAGINED



- To provide access to young people within the community to explore professions in a creative field.
- Accessibility for all communities through providing complimentary transportation and lunch.
- A free one-day program at McCaw Hall
- Ages 14 -24 (300-400 students)
- 4 Pillars
  - **Audio, Visual, Business, and Technology**
- Sessions, Panels, Workshops, Workforce Development Tabling, Interactive Demos, and Networking



# 4 PILLARS



## AUDIO

- Studio Engineer
- Live Events
- Voice Overs
- Broadcasting & TV
- Gaming Sound Designer
- Foley Artist
- Film Composer
- Performer / Artist



## VISUAL

- Film Editing
- Filming
- Photography
- Script Writing\*
- Animation
- Content Creation
- Lighting Design
- Graphic Design
- Story Boarding
- Illustration
- Gaming Design



## BUSINESS

- Publishing
- Licensing
- Legal Formation
- Event Producer
- Entrepreneurship
- Branding / Marketing
- Industry Org Chart



## TECHNOLOGY

- Gaming UX / UI
- AI
- Emerging Technologies
- Code-Writing
- Content Creation
- Designers
- Programmers
- Pixel Mapping

# SCHEDULE



**9:00 - 10:00am**

**Registration  
Tabling / Demos**  
K Prom Lobby

**10:00 - 12:00pm**

**Sessions**  
Lecture Hall / Rooms

**12:00 - 1:15pm**

**Lunch Workshops**  
Grand Lobby

**1:15 - 3:00pm**

**Sessions & 1:1  
Round Tables**  
Lecture Hall / Rooms  
2nd Floor Lobby

**3:30pm**

**Student  
Departure**  
Busses / Public Transpo

**3:30pm - 6:00pm**

**Networking Event**  
Location TBD



# WAYS TO SUPPORT CAREER DAY



## RECRUITING

Keynotes Speakers, Panelists, Room Session Leads, 1 : 1 Mentors.



## PARTNERSHIPS & DEMOS

Workforce Development Tabling, In-kind Donations, Interactive Demos



## MARKETING & OUTREACH

Utilizing Contributors Social Channels to Gain Momentum

# BE A RECRUITER

Creating a balanced program aligned with the 4 pillars

Recommendations for established professionals in cross disciplinary fields:

- Keynote Speakers
- Panel Participants
- 1:1 Mentoring Session
- Lunch Workshops
- Post Event Networking

CAREER  
DAY



# PARTNERSHIPS & DEMOS

- Underwriting
- Sponsorships
- Introductions to potential partners
- In-kind donors
- Workforce development tabling
- Interactive demos - onsite engagement





## MARKETING & OUTREACH



- Cross promoting on social media
- Assist with target outreach to edu's and community programs
- Poster campaigns

# CONTACT US



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