



TWO NEW QUALIFIED PRODUCTION FACILITIES NOW AVAILABLE IN ONONDAGA COUNTY

SYRACUSE, NY (July 27, 2020) - The Visit Syracuse Film Office, in conjunction with Onondaga County, Redhouse Arts Center and ASM Global, is proud to announce the addition of two new Qualified Production Facilities (QPF) within Onondaga County. Utilizing the existing spaces available within The Oncenter and Redhouse Arts Center, in addition to the existing QPF space available at The Greater Syracuse Soundstage, Central New York has dramatically increased existing space available for film production.

Facilities are granted Qualified Production Status by the New York State Governor's Office of Motion Picture and Television Development and film productions are required to utilize qualified facilities in order to receive the NYS Film Tax credit. The welcome addition of the Redhouse and The Oncenter increases the number of productions able to film in the area at one time, and also allows for greater social distancing and safety measures.

The Redhouse and Oncenter will allow filming to resume in CNY in the safest, healthiest, cleanest way possible when we are able. Providing this type of environment, with new practices and guidelines in place, is paramount for the best interest of the community, crews and casts. The Visit Syracuse Film Office couldn't be more excited to get back to work and utilize these new spaces, hopefully helping to supplement any lost business during this challenging and tragic time, all while giving the destination a new leg up in the entertainment industry.

2019 saw record numbers in terms of the local film industry, with seven productions taking place within Onondaga County, bringing close to \$30 million in production budgets and leaving more than \$20 million of that total within the community. Additionally, *The Night House (which shot in Syracuse, Skaneateles and The Greater Syracuse Soundstage)* premiered at the 2020 Sundance Film Festival earning high reviews as the "first chilling horror surprise" of the year. The film was the first major acquisition of the festival, being purchased by Searchlight for \$12 million. Previous films shot in Central NY continue to be released with success, like American High / LD Entertainment/ Hulu's "Big Time Adolescence". Check [online](#) for where, when and how you can watch the movies that filmed in our region.

RYAN MCMAHON, ONONDAGA COUNTY EXECUTIVE: "Onondaga County is excited to be able to offer additional facilities for film production, including some of our most well-known county buildings like The Oncenter, which includes the Convention Center, Civic Center and War Memorial. The growth of the film

industry in the region is another example of new businesses and partnerships coming together for greater economic development within our region. The Redhouse and Oncenter facilities, are excellent examples of the quality of our resources here in Onondaga County. We are pleased that production studios see the value of filming in our area and the safety measures Central New York is taking to carry us through this COVID-19 crisis.”

ERIC VINAL, VISIT SYRACUSE VICE PRESIDENT OF FILM, TV & ENTERTAINMENT: “The addition of Redhouse and The Oncenter to our growing list of film industry resources greatly strengthens our infrastructure. With two new QPFs now online, this brings our total to four in the region, inclusive of The Greater Syracuse Soundstage and American High/Syracuse Studios. These added facilities now allow us to not only take on more productions, but also market to more studios, networks and platforms for more than just feature films, like television series’ and commercials. Most importantly, in the post-COVID film world, space is key as we need to socially distance more than ever. Given limited access to locations we will also be building more sets on stages and will need extra support space for hair, makeup, costume, wardrobe, holding, props, food service, green rooms and dressing rooms.

SAMARA HANNAH, REDHOUSE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: “Film is a vital part of the performing arts industry, Redhouse is very excited to support the work being done across Central New York.”

MATT HOLLANDER, ASM GLOBAL GENERAL MANAGER OF THE ONCENTER: “The Oncenter’s three facilities (Convention Center, War Memorial Arena and Civic Center Theaters) have provided extensive support of the entertainment industry, Syracuse community and local economy for more than 25 years. We are thrilled to be accepted as a Qualified Production Facility, expanding the footprint of film production capabilities within Onondaga County and continuing our longstanding commitment of celebrating the arts in Central New York.”

For more information, contact Eric Vinal, Vice President of Film, Television and Entertainment with the Visit Syracuse Film Office at evinal@visitsyracuse.com or (315) 952-5801

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About the Visit Syracuse Film Office

The Visit Syracuse Film Office assists the local industry and incoming productions in a variety of ways including permitting, accommodations, working with local agencies, scouting locations, and acts as a liaison to production crews, props equipment and more as well as representing the interests of locals and the community in addressing the needs of filming.

The office also works on educating the community on film initiatives and the resulting economic impact. Additionally, its connection with Onondaga County, the City of Syracuse and other partner organizations helps to provide new opportunities and resources in order to create jobs within the region with the goal of creating a large local workforce of film crew.