

In early 2021, the Film Partnership of North Carolina was born of an idea and alliance between Susi Hamilton, Darla McGlamery, and Lauren Vilchik – representing three sides of the film and television production economy across advocacy, business, and producing. The mission to promote economic development within North Carolina’s film and television industry by developing a well-trained crew base through hands-on experiences on professional sets. Stimulating renewed interest in North Carolina as a premier destination for productions of all sizes – while adding to our already rich offering of locations, studios and sound stages.

The idea was ignited just before production of the feature film *A LITTLE PRAYER* began filming in Winston Salem, produced by Vilchik who is also a professor at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. The film was directed by Angus MacLachlan, a North Carolina native and UNCSA graduate. It starred three fellow drama graduates of UNCSA – and hosted over 25 students and alumni from UNCSA’s School of Filmmaking. Since its recent premiere, the film has received immense praise and recognition with several noted articles in [The New York Times](#) and [The New Yorker](#).

Recently, another Vilchik-produced feature film, *THE BARD* filmed in the Winston Salem area – bringing with it a crew of over 150, as well as, employing 500 background actors from the surrounding area. It employed 22 interns across varied departments – an estimated \$75,600 direct spend for interns alone. It received local and national attention for attracting such a stellar cast and crew featuring David Gyasi, Julia Schlaepfer, Michael McElhatton, and David Strathairn – directed by Kevin Willmott, who co-wrote the Oscar-winning *BlackKKlansman*. Highly respected industry publications *Variety* and *ScreenRant* featured several articles ([here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)) – which garnered several pickups across national media outlets.

Vilchik has a third feature film production set to roll cameras this October – *WIDOW* is anticipated to employ another 25 Film Partnership interns from Forsyth County.

In addition to contributions to the incredible film work, FPNC has built extended partnerships with other organizations like the Tri-City Film Consortium, Forsyth Tech Community College, the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, and Winston Salem State University – to continue providing professional, hands-on experiences to local residents in the gaps of production opportunities.

Since the commitment early on from Winston Salem, the Film Partnership of North Carolina has employed roughly 70 interns from Forsyth County – with Winston Salem and the Triad being a regional focus – directly benefiting the local economies. Recognizable locations throughout Winston-Salem have been beautifully highlighted through *A LITTLE PRAYER*. And through publicity from *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Variety* and numerous local outlets – the spotlight on Winston-Salem has added an immeasurable amount of publicity that adds direct value to other economic engines like tourism and talent attraction.

A trained, locally based crew will only add to the current efforts to recruit productions to the region. Therefore, FPNC respectfully requests an additional \$100,000.00 for FY2025-2026 to continue local training efforts during this busy time for filming in the Triad. Additionally, FPNC is currently under contract with New Hanover County for recurring funding, and would like the City of Winston-Salem to consider continued funding for FPNC in the FY 2026-2027 budget cycle as well. As we continue to build upon our strong community relationships in the Winston-Salem region, and with our current accumulation of participants, we eagerly anticipate adding more training opportunities to serve the region.

WS

UPDATE 2025

The Film Partnership of North Carolina is a 501c3 economic development organization, vocation and education resource structured to grow the film, television, and digital streaming industry in NC through collaboration, and create a well-trained pipeline of talent.

It will maximize outreach, connect with film influencers, and promote the industry working with our state, local, nonprofit and private partners.



FILM PARTNERSHIP
of NORTH CAROLINA

by the numbers to date

70

INTERNS
PLACED

10

PRODUCTIONS +
TRAININGS

\$100,000

DIRECT SPEND IN WINSTON SALEM

zip codes represented from interns placed

27127 - 27110 - 27106 - 27101 - 27103 - 27105 - 27104 - 27284 - 27012 - 27045

\$302M

DIRECT STATEWIDE - 2024

Numbers provided by North Carolina Film Office

97,000

FILM INDUSTRY JOBS - 2024

Numbers provided by North Carolina Film Office

partners highlight



UNCSA



WINSTON-SALEM
STATE UNIVERSITY

in the news

FOX8: In Black and White

by Jordan Brown

"...And our goal is to get people in North Carolina to understand that they too can dream this dream and be a part of growing an already established industry here," Lauren Vilchik said.

