



Governor's Office of Economic Development

BUSINESS • TOURISM • FILM

State of Utah

GARY R. HERBERT
Governor

SPENCER J. COX
Lieutenant Governor

Q. VAL HALE
Executive Director

VIRGINIA PEARCE
Director

News Release For Immediate Release

Contact:

Ricardo Flores, Utah Film Commission
801-538-8740
rcflores@utah.gov

Independent Features to Begin Production in Utah

Two family-oriented films set to land in the state this June

SALT LAKE CITY (May 12, 2016) – The Utah Film Commission today announced the Governor's Office of Economic Development Board of Directors has approved two new projects for state film incentives.

The Stray is directed and produced by Mitch Davis. Davis has an array of film credits including *The Other Side of Heaven*, *A House Divided*, and most recently *Christmas Eve*. The film is a true story about a stray dog that wanders into a family's life and heroically saves the family's father and oldest son while backpacking in the mountains. The production will spend an estimated \$637,000 in the state and hire approximately 60 local cast and crew. It will film in Summit County, utilizing the Park City Film Studios.

We Love You, Sally Carmichael! was also approved to receive an incentive. Veteran actor Christopher Gorham (*Covert Affairs*, *Once Upon a Time*, *Ugly Betty*) will make his directorial debut for the family comedy set in Utah. The story revolves around the best-selling romance novelist that the general public knows as Sally Carmichael, who in reality is bitter author Simon Hayes. Produced by Adam Abel of Go Films, the project will hire approximately 58 local cast and crew and will spend an estimated \$227,000 in Utah.

Both productions will begin principal photography this June, with filming taking place in the state over a period of 45 days combined.

"Both projects have local ties and productions of this size are a great example of how well Utah does in the independent film market," said Utah Film Commission Director Virginia Pearce. "With what we have in the pipeline, this summer is shaping up to be the 'summer of indie film' in Utah."

###



About the Utah Film Commission

As a part of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the Utah Film Commission markets the entire state as a destination for film, television and commercial production by promoting the use of professional local crew & talent, support services, Utah locations and the Motion Picture Incentive Program. The office also serves as liaison to the film industry, facilitating production needs across the state.

Over 900 films have been produced in Utah, including *127 Hours*, *Butch Cassidy & The Sundance Kid*, *Forrest Gump*, *Lone Ranger*, *High School Musical* and the television series *Touched by an Angel*.

The Utah Film Commission partners with seven regional offices: Kane County, Utah Valley, Washington County, Ogden, Park City, Heber Valley and Moab.

For more information, visit www.film.utah.gov.