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City of San Diego Earns Spotlight in MovieMaker Magazine’s List of Top Cities

BINATIONAL LOCATION, YEAR-ROUND BACKDROPS AND STREAMLINED PERMITTING RAISE SAN DIEGO’S PROFILE IN FILM INDUSTRY

SAN DIEGO – Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer announced today that the city of San Diego has been ranked among the top 20 large cities to live and work as a moviemaker according to MovieMaker Magazine, the nation’s leading resource on the art and business of making movies and the world’s most widely read independent film magazine.

“San Diego’s film industry is in the middle of a renaissance,” Mayor Faulconer said. “We’re welcoming more and more filmmakers here to tell their stories and capture the vibrant and diverse cultures and geographic landmarks that make San Diego such a special place.”

The City’s film office has been able to put San Diego on the filmmaking map through a streamlined permitting process, online directories of local crews, national and international advertising campaigns and participation in industry events.

As a top film-friendly city in the nation, San Diego continues to draw moviemakers to the region. In 2018, the city welcomed the local production for the Top Gun sequel, Top Gun: Maverick, and major studios and networks like Paramount Pictures, VICE, E! Network, Comedy Central, HBO and National Geographic all spent time filming in San Diego. In 2018, 1,600 filming dates were permitted on city public property.

“With Mayor Faulconer’s support, we have been able to attract local, national and international filmmakers to San Diego,” said Brandy Shimabukuro, the City’s Film Liaison. “Film productions such as the Top Gun sequel and others have bolstered our civic pride and positively impacted our local economy.”

To rank each city, MovieMaker Magazine looked at film activity, infrastructure, population and geographic size, state and local tax incentive programs and ease of movement and traffic. San Diego was included in the Big City division which included top U.S. and Canadian cities.

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