

JULY



Welcome to the Hawai'i Film Alliance



Together, we're building a thriving future for film, TV, and media in Hawai'i

You are now part of a growing coalition of filmmakers, crew members, industry leaders, creatives, business leaders, educators, and advocates who believe in the power of storytelling and the economic potential of a sustainable film industry in Hawai'i.

The Hawai'i Film Alliance (HFA) was born from the need to uplift and support our local industry—from advocating for better tax incentives to creating more opportunities for local talent both in front of and behind the camera. Our goal is to unite the industry and come together to help rejuvenate and build our industry.

Pūpūkahi i holomua - Unite in order to move forward.

Founding Members

Angie Laprete
Aubrey Lee Staley
Brian Keaulana
Brian Wallace
Bryan Spicer
Daniel Hamilton-Lowe
Eric Hays
Fairai Richmond
Hale Gualdarama
Irish Barber
John Salanoa
Kenny Burke
Kristin Jackson
Mericia Palma Elmore
Noah Evslin
Ric Galindez
Robert Suka
Sanoë Damon
Vince Keala Lucero
Wainani Young Tomich

Hawai'i Industry News:



Lilo & Stitch

NATIVE HAWAIIANS ARE AT THE TOP OF THE BOX OFFICE!

Disney's Lilo & Stitch continues to sell at the box office and has become the highest grossing MPA movie year-to-date with \$957.6 million worldwide and \$553.9 million international and growing. A Minecraft Movie stands at \$954.9M million worldwide and \$530.9M abroad. They are the only two movies to surpass \$900M currently in 2025. They're also the only two pics to cross the four century mark stateside.

Lilo & Stitch is on track to becoming the first billion-dollar grossing Hollywood title of 2025. They have also announced that a Lilo & Stitch 2 is in the works!

Governor vetoes HB 796

On July 3rd, Governor Josh Green vetoed HB796, a bill many feared would threaten the state's ability to attract future productions.

House Bill 796 would have imposed automatic expiration dates on a wide range of state tax credits, including those that support Hawaii's growing movie and television production sector.

House Bill 796 would have required that any income tax credit established or renewed after December 31, 2025, include a five-year sunset clause.

<https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/office-of-the-governor-news-release-gov-green-finalizes-veto-decisions/>



Chief of War

Apple TV+'s upcoming series airing August 1, 2025 Chief of War, starring and co-created by Jason Momoa, is one of the most ambitious portrayals of Native Hawaiian history ever attempted in mainstream television. Set in late 18th-century Hawai'i, the series follows the unification of the islands from the perspective of the Indigenous people.

With some of the filming taking place on O'ahu and featuring Native Hawaiian talent both in front of and behind the camera, Chief of War marks a major step forward for local storytelling on a global platform. It's a powerful reminder of the importance of authentic representation in our industry.

Strengthening our Hawai'i Film Alliance

Our goal is to unify our industry so we can move forward with shared purpose and greater efficiency. We're taking on different aspects of the work—from legislation to infrastructure—to create lasting impact.

There are many ways to be a part of this movement. Signing up to receive a copy of our (or the) monthly newsletter is one way to stay informed and lend your support. You can also volunteer to join our committees.

- Communications, Website & IT
- Infrastructure
- Legal Counsel
- Workforce Development

Each committee plays a vital role in shaping the future of film in Hawai'i. If one of these speaks to you, we'd love to have you onboard.

Film Offices

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Hawaii State Film Office

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Share your industry photos!

Whether you're on set, in class, behind the scenes, in the writers' room, or working post, we want to see your world. Help us showcase the incredible talent and hustle happening across Hawai'i's film industry.

Submit your photos to be featured on our website, social media, and future newsletters.

- Send your high-res images to socials@hawaiiifilmalliance.com
- Your name & role
- Project name (if applicable)
- Location
- Any credits you'd like included

Contact

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