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## NEW YORK FILM AND TELEVISION STUDENT ALLIANCE HOLDS THIRD SUMMIT

*New York Film / TV Students Organize Conference at Ithaca College*

Film students from around New York State gathered at Ithaca College on Dec. 5 for the third professional development “summit” hosted by the student-run New York Film & Television Student Alliance (NYFTSA), and featuring a day of workshops and seminars about the film industry.

In addition to 68 students who attended in person — from Ithaca College, Hamilton College and SUNY Oswego — 70 students from other campuses participated remotely using Periscope, the virtual meeting software. The group heard from film and television professionals from around New York State, on topics including the “Art of the Pitch,” “Broadcasting and You,” “Networking,” and “Production Design.” Journey Gunderson, Executive Director of the National Comedy Museum in Jamestown, gave the summit’s keynote address.



“It’s been great to see these NYFTSA students coming together from campuses around the state to make this terrific summit happen,” said Gigi Semone, Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Motion Picture & Television Development, which co-hosted a summit workshop on film commissions with the Rochester/Finger Lakes Film and Video Office. “The inter-campus cooperation and the networking with the professionals they brought to Ithaca to host the panels and seminars will really serve them well as they move forward to join the larger New York production community. These NYFTSA students show that spirit of ambition and enthusiasm that makes New York the best place for young talent to call home.”

The mission of NYFTSA is twofold: to nurture homegrown talent by encouraging and supporting film and television students who want to pursue their careers in New York State, and to help graduating students make contacts and connections with industry professionals and organizations. Working together through NYFTSA, students can have access to unique resources, share ideas, create collaborative programs and expand their networks. In addition to organizing the summit, the Alliance plans a number of member events throughout the year, including: trips to major New York film festivals; meetings with industry groups and alliances around the State; visits to film and television sets; and work with faculty advisors to learn different aspects of the industry.

Chrissy Guest, Assistant Professor in the Television-Radio Program at the Roy H. Park School of Communications at Ithaca College and faculty advisor to NYFTSA, voiced appreciation for “ongoing support from the Governor’s Film Office and all the great organizations, companies and individuals from the New York community who helped make this summit a success. This latest successful event shows that New York is home to the best and brightest film students, and we’re very proud here at Ithaca College to be home to the founding chapter of NYFTSA. Our students

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### Governor’s Office of Motion Picture & Television Development

The New York State Governor’s Office for Motion Picture and Television Development is responsible for the growth of the film, television and commercial production, and related industries in New York State.

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are in conversations now with more campuses interested in setting up their own chapters. Thanks to the hard work of these students, NYFTSA is poised to expand even further in the coming months."

Dec 21, 2015 2:23 pm by *empirestatedevelopment*

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