FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On-Location Film Production Springs Forward in Los Angeles

L.A. Region Hosts Busiest Quarter on Record, as Measured in Total Shoot Days

LOS ANGELES – APRIL 19, 2016 – On-location filming in Greater Los Angeles increased 11.4 percent between January and March, 2016 to 9,703 Shoot Days (SD)*, according to an update from FilmL.A. Double-digit gains in Television and Feature production, plus a solid increase in Commercial production, powered local production levels to record highs. FilmL.A. is a not-for-profit organization that serves as the official film office of the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles and 20 other area jurisdictions.

Local on-location Feature production increased 23.7 percent (to 1,145 SD) in the first quarter, thanks to a significant assist from California’s Film & Television Tax Credit Program. Along with other Feature projects, four films retained by the state incentive were in production last quarter, generating 155 SD of filming. Those projects included The God Particle, Please Stand By, Sentence and Why Him.

“We predicted we’d see a boost in Feature production in the first quarter thanks to the state tax credit, and we’re glad to see that happening,” noted FilmL.A. President Paul Audley. “In addition, as the non-incentivized counts show, Los Angeles remains a popular choice among film, television and commercial producers.”

Overall Television production posted a 19.1 percent increase (to 3,944 SD) in the first quarter, aided by the local presence of state-incentivized shows. Local TV Drama production increased 3.1 percent (to 1091 SD) with 21.9 percent of the category (240 SD) coming from tax credit projects such as Animal Kingdom, Rosewood, Twin Peaks and Westworld, among others.

Local TV Comedy production increased 83.2 percent (to 557 SD) with 14.5 percent (81 SD) coming from tax credit projects. These projects included Veep, which relocated to Los Angeles from Maryland in 2015, and Crazy Ex-Girlfriend.
“Though we’ve seen tremendous growth in the last quarter, Los Angeles County can never take for granted its history and position as the center of the entertainment industry,” said Supervisor Don Knabe. “Walk or drive anywhere in Los Angeles County these days and chances are you will find yourself on the set of a movie or TV show. From the downtown Los Angeles Arts District to Long Beach, film production is booming and the large and small businesses that benefit from the industry are feeling the benefits, providing hundreds of thousands of jobs, directly and indirectly.”

Local TV Pilot production grew by 2.7 percent (to 264 SD) with 14.0 percent (37 SD) coming from tax credit projects. _Bunker Hill, Nineteen_, and _Pitch_ were among the new state-incentivized projects that filmed in Greater L.A. FilmL.A. Research’s annual survey of U.S. Pilot production is slated for publication in June.

“The very encouraging first quarter numbers from FilmL.A. demonstrate the impact of California’s expanded tax credit program,” said California Film Commission Executive Director Amy Lemisch. “They illustrate that the Film & Television Tax Credit Program 2.0 is working precisely as intended to attract and retain all types of productions, especially TV projects that create steady long-term jobs for cast and crew.”

Commercial production increased 6.1 percent (to 1,523 SD), a welcome sign after the category’s flat performance in 2015. Commercial production is the second-largest driver of on-location production in Los Angeles, behind Television. For more than four straight years, Commercials have produced more on-location Shoot Days per year than Feature films.

"The results are in: local production is at a record high, and the state tax credit is working," said Mayor Eric Garcetti. "Los Angeles is home to the best television and film talent in the world, and the industry is thriving right here at home. The TV shows and movies produced here are hitting screens big and small, creating good, middle-class jobs for hardworking Angelenos, and showcasing the creativity, vibrancy, and imagination of our city. That’s good news today, and for the future."

**About FilmL.A.**

FilmL.A. is a private, not-for-profit community benefit organization and the official film office of the City and County of Los Angeles, among an ever-increasing roster of local municipalities. Providing streamlined permit processing, comprehensive community relations, marketing services, film policy analysis and more to these jurisdictions, FilmL.A. works to attract and retain film production in Greater Los Angeles. Learn more about FilmL.A. at www.filmla.com.

* On-location production figures are based on days of permitted production within the jurisdictions served by FilmL.A. One “Shoot Day” (or “SD”) is defined as one crew’s permission to film at one or more defined locations during all or part of any given 24-hour period. This measure determines how many days of work film crews perform during a given time period. FilmL.A. data does not include production that occurs on certified sound stages or on-location in jurisdictions not served by FilmL.A.
LOS ANGELES SHOOT DAYS*, BY CATEGORY
CALENDAR YEARS 2015 - 2016, FIRST QUARTER

FEATURE FILMS
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 23.7%
5 YEAR AVG: + 22.1%

COMMERCIALS
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 6.1%
5 YEAR AVG: + 8.7%

TELEVISION
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 19.1%
5 YEAR AVG: + 17.4%

OTHER
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 2.6%
5 YEAR AVG: + 4.8%

TOTAL
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 11.4%
5 YEAR AVG: + 12.0%

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LOS ANGELES SHOOT DAYS*, BY TELEVISION SUB-CATEGORY
CALENDAR YEARS 2015 - 2016, FIRST QUARTER

TV DRAMA
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 3.1%
5 YEAR AVG: + 21.0%

TV COMEDY
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 83.2%
5 YEAR AVG: + 41.7%

TV REALITY
VERSUS Q1 2015: - 7.5%
5 YEAR AVG: + 1.6%

TV PILOT
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 2.7%
5 YEAR AVG: - 3.6%

WEB-BASED TV
VERSUS Q1 2015: + 88.1%
5 YEAR AVG: + 36.0%

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