

MICHIGAN FILM OFFICE ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 22, 2025

Michigan Life Science & Innovation Center
46701 Commerce Center Drive, MI 48170
&
Microsoft Teams Open Virtual Meeting

1. Call to Order/Welcome from the Chairman

The meeting of the Michigan Film Office Advisory Council (MFOAC) was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Bill Ludwig. The following Council members were in attendance: Bill Ludwig, Dori DePree, Rick Hert, Eric Kuiper, Dan Lemieux, Andriy Pereklita, Tim Pietryga, Terry Terry, Brian Winn and Selam Ghirmai.

2. Adopt Agenda

There was a motion to approve the agenda, which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes of July 21, 2025 meeting

There was a motion to approve the minutes of July 21, 2025, MFOAC meeting; which was seconded; motion passed unanimously.

4. Director's Report / Presentation – Selam Ghirmai

a. **Grant Competition for Michigan Creatives**

- i. The Michigan Growth Office, in partnership with Creative Place Consulting and Studio M Detroit, announced applications officially opened October 20, 2025 for Pitch Haus, a pilot program that will award four \$25,000 grants to Michigan creatives.
 1. Submission Deadline: Wednesday, Nov. 5 at 11:59 p.m. ET.
 2. Apply Here: www.makeshiftmichigan.com
 3. Call to Action: share opportunity with your creative industries network

b. **Carole Dorothy Joyce Grant for Student Filmmakers**

- i. Sponsored by nonprofit From the Heart Productions (501(c)3), this grant seeks student filmmakers who are creating unique, socially impactful films on a budget of \$50,000 or less.
 1. Submission Deadline: November 30, 2025
 2. Apply Here: <https://fromtheheartproductions.com/carole-dorothy-joyce-grant-for-student-filmmakers/>
 3. Call to Action: Please share with students in your network

c. **D-Hack 2025**

- i. Educational 12-hour hackathon for high school students to have immersive experience in AI, digital marketing & entrepreneurship. The event will be held at Western International High School at 1500 Scotten Street, Detroit, MI 48209 on Saturday, December 6, 2025 9am-9pm.
 1. Call to Action: D-Hack 2025 is seeking **two volunteers** for D-Hack 2025. If you are interested in participating, please let me know and I'll connect you with the event organizer
 - a. **Seeking Volunteer Judge:** The only criteria for volunteer judges is an interest and patience to hear high school pitches. Each judge will be given a rubric and an online Google Form to complete while listening to the pitch. No need for any experience in subjects (marketing, A.I., entrepreneurship) to judge. All D-Hack judges are asked to arrive by 6:30pm and judge from 7pm-9pm EST on Sat 12/6 at Western International HS.
 - b. **Seeking Marketing Workshop Instructor:** Seeking a volunteer to teach web design and social media marketing. Web design: show the students how to

create a 1-page website using Wix (or something similar and free). Social media: they only need to create a video on Instagram and/or Facebook. The instructor should be able to explain the benefits of web pages and social media marketing.

5. Michigan Film Office Advisory Council meetings

- a. 2026 Council meetings: TBD, aim to provide dates by January 15.

6. Presentation by

Presentation by Viveca Henry, co-founder of Ross Entertainment Conference for Ross Business School

7. Public Comments

None

8. Old Business

There were no items discussed under Old Business.

9. New Business

There were no items discussed under New Business.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, there was a motion to adjourn the meeting, that was seconded; motion passed unanimously.