



February 3, 2022

**College of Fine Arts and
Communication**

8000 York Road
Towson, MD 21252-0001

Chair Atterbeary and Members of the
House Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB432-SUPPORT

Dear Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing in support of HB432, which will increase the annual amount of tax credits available for film production in Maryland.

I am writing as the **Dean of the College of Fine Art and Communication at Towson University** where we train more than 800 young filmmakers, writers, designers, digital artists, and actors to prepare for careers in Film, Television and Media. Specifically, our department of Electronic Media and Film, has more than 450 students who are being transformed by state-of-the-art technology, world-class faculty, and high-level research in Film and Digital Media. We want to keep these bright and talented young people in our state. Towson University students represent the cultural and racial diversity of the Old Line State. Our goal is to connect this generation of talent with high caliber artists, performers, and tradespeople in the world of film and television. And we want to do it here – in Maryland.

These experiences for our students rely on the success and increased funding of the Maryland film Production Activity Tax Credit Incentive Program. This program was established to attract film and television productions to Maryland, create jobs for Marylanders, stimulate business activity in the State and to provide strong economic impacts.

We have data that suggests that in the last 10 years, more than 20,000 Marylanders were hired for Film and Television work through this rebate program. In the past – film activity in Maryland provided a boost to more than 18,000 other Maryland businesses with an economic impact statewide in excess of one billion dollars. Stability and growth of this program is critical to ensuring a solid business climate for all of Maryland, but especially for our young artists.

In closing, I ask that you give HB432 favorable support. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to visit our Film Program at Towson University and meet our tremendous students.

Sincerely,


Regina Carlow, Ph.D.

Dean, College of Fine Arts and Communication

Towson University

