

THE GARDNER NEWS

LOCAL

Gardner school to be used as filming location for upcoming movie: How you can be an extra

Movie described as 'heartfelt comedy' will film in and around Gardner in July



[Stephen Landry](#)

The Gardner News

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Key Points

- An independent film, "BOLIO: Spirit of the Mustang," will be filmed in Gardner, Massachusetts throughout July.
 - The producers are seeking local residents to volunteer as unpaid extras in various roles.
 - Filming will occur weekdays from July 10 to August 1 at locations around the city, including a local school.
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GARDNER — Extras, extras, read all about it!

The producers of an independent feature film that will be shooting in the area over the next several weeks are looking for residents who would like to appear as background extras in several scenes.

The movie, "[BOLIO: Spirit of the Mustang](#)," is described by the filmmakers as a heartfelt comedy that will be filmed in and around Gardner throughout July. The production is taking place with the full cooperation of city officials, according to the producers.

"This will be our first true comedy movie, so we are certainly looking forward to working with the cast, crew and entire team," said Joshua Cormier, the city's film liaison.

No details about the film's plot or cast have been released at this time. Jim Issa is listed as the movie's director.

Why Gardner?

Jamieson Shea, who is producing the movie, said the filmmakers appreciated the support they had received from the city as the project entered production.

“When we first scouted Gardner, the team really fell in love with the city and we’re honored to be filming here,” Shea said. “The city has such a unique character and sense of community, and that’s exactly what we were looking for.”

Cormier said the filmmakers had selected several locations in the city that fit the script, vision and message that the project’s team had been looking for as part of the movie.

“Those locations include schools, houses, commercial locations and some of our streetscapes,” he said. “I think they have found character coupled with accessibility and that has assisted us in getting to this point in the process.”

The producers are hoping to use as many local residents as possible to play extras in the movie, Shea added.

How to become an extra in the movie

Residents interested in appearing as a background extra in the movie have several opportunities to do so. The producers are seeking extras to play teenagers, pedestrians, soapbox racers, patrons, partiers and a small group of children between 6 and 8 for an art class scene. The casting call notice also says the production is looking for extras with dance experience.

More: [Calling all filmmakers & producers: Here's why you should make your movie in Gardner](#)

The current filming schedule is weekdays from July 10 through Aug. 1. Extras must be non-union actors, and because these are voluntary roles there will be no

compensation. All extras must be able to self-report to the location, and anyone under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

The producers are looking for extras to appear in a scene that will be filmed at a local school on July 23. The production is seeking boys and girls, teens and young adults who appear to be between 14 and 18 to play high school students for a school assembly scene. Some extras may be selected to appear in additional scenes, according to officials.

The producers have several schools to choose as a location, but Cormier said that due to issues related to safety and security, he was unable to divulge the name of the school to be used.

“The only thing I would add is that this is an opportunity for these teenagers to one day tell a story about how they were a part of this movie, and I think that is incredibly cool,” he said.

The producers are also putting out the call for soapbox drivers who might want to appear in the film with their cars.

To participate in the film as extras, email bolioextras@gmail.com or bolioproduction@gmail.com for more information.

Are more movie productions looking to film in Gardner?

Cormier said he is in continuous communication with several film scouts about potential projects interested in using the city as a filming location.

More: [Lights, camera, action at Blue Moon Diner in Gardner: What movie is being filmed](#)

“Though we are not always successful with those conversations, I am proud of what the city can offer those looking for locations,” he said. “Furthermore, when we have the opportunity to work with a wonderful project such as (BOLIO), the goal is to ensure that everything goes smoothly and that, in return, local individuals, businesses and organizations reap some benefits.”

The city has been used as a filming location for a number of recent notable projects, including Tubi's "Dead Hot: Season of the Witch" in 2023, Showtime's "Dexter: New Blood" in 2021, and Hulu's "Castle Rock" in 2019. The city was also featured in a scene in Paramount's "School Ties," starring future Oscar-winner Brendan Fraser, in 1992.