

THE GARDNER NEWS

LOCAL

Dancers, skateboarders needed for Gardner movie shoot: What producer says about the movie

Gardner Movie Filming BOLIO Elm St. School West St. Parking Lot Extras



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The Gardner News

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The producers of a [movie that will be shot in Gardner](#) have expanded their casting call for residents interested in appearing in the movie as background extras.

The movie, “[BOLIO: Spirit of the Mustang](#),” is described by the producers as a heartfelt comedy that will be filmed in and around Gardner throughout July and August.

According to producer Jamieson Shea, the movie’s plot revolves around Dale Bolio, a high school shop teacher in the grips of a deep depression. His drab life begins to turn around when he meets Chuck Swayze, a dynamic life coach hired by the school to inspire the students. The two men become fast friends until Dale discovers that Chuck is definitely not all that he seems.

The cast of the movie, which will be directed by Jim Issa, would be announced within the next few days, Shea said.

As previously reported, the producers are looking for hundreds of extras for a school assembly scene that will be filmed at Elm St. School on Wednesday, July 23, according to Mayor Michael Nicholson.

“They are looking for anyone who looks high school age who would be willing to sit in Elm St.’s auditorium for a scene,” Nicholson said in an interview with Steve Wendell on [WGAW](#). “So, if you are anyone who looks like you are between the ages of 14 and 18, they are looking for about 200 people to fill that spot. I know they’re not (at that number) yet, so there are still plenty of openings for that one.”

Shea said the filmmakers were well on their way to finding enough extras for the scene.

“So far, response has been great,” he said. “We’ve had just over 100 people sign up for our bigger high school assembly scene. We do have a number of other scenes that require extras of all ages, and we always prefer to use area locals.”

Producers looking for dancers, skateboarders, and soapbox racers

Another scene in the movie will apparently depict a soapbox derby race and will be filmed in downtown Gardner on Wednesday, July 16 between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., according to Nicholson. In addition to anyone with a soapbox car who would like to race in the movie, the producers are looking for hundreds of residents to appear as background extras in the scene.

More: [Gardner school to be used as filming location for upcoming movie: How you can be an extra](#)

“They need a crowd in the West. St. parking lot, so we are going to be having a small festival in the West St. parking lot with some food trucks, some vendors, some music,” Nicholson said. “So, if you’re out and about on (that date) and you want your chance to be in the background of a scene that’s going to be up on the silver screen, that’s your place to go.”

The producers are also looking for extras with skateboarding experience for a scene scheduled to be filmed on Monday, July 21.

Movie scheduled to be shot in and around Gardner through Aug. 1

The production is also seeking a variety of extras to serve as pedestrians, patrons at a local business, and attendees at a 1980s mixer. Additionally, the producers are looking for a small group of children between the ages of 6 and 8 to take part in a scene filmed in an art class.

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Extras selected to appear in the movie may be asked to wear certain attire and bring along some props, depending on which scene they will be in, according to the producers. Anyone with dance experience is encouraged to inform the filmmakers.

“This film takes place in the present day around the end of the school year, so for our high school assembly scene we’ll be asking kids to arrive in attire that they would wear at the end of the year or in early summer,” Shea said. “For other scenes, those who have signed up will receive notification from our extra coordinator that will provide guidance on what to wear and/or bring.”

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.

Anyone interested in signing up to be an extra can do so emailing the producers at bolioextras@gmail.com or Joshua Cormier, the city’s film liaison, at jcormier@gardner-ma.gov.

