

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 18, 2024

Ms. Amanada Kelso
Acting Chief Operating Officer
Sundance Institute
P.O. Box 684429
Park City, UT 84068

Dear Ms. Kelso,

I am pleased to write this letter to encourage the full and fair consideration of Georgia's three applications to host the Sundance Film Festival in 2027.

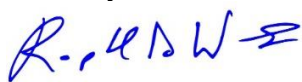
Emerging as the "Hollywood of the South," Georgia is a modern-day epicenter for visual storytelling. Our scenic landscapes, diverse cities, and warm and welcoming people have provided the backdrop for countless films and television series, captivating audiences around the world and bringing stories to life. The arc of Georgia's history and its evolution into an entertainment, economic, and cultural powerhouse beckons a renowned event like the Sundance Film Festival to make our great state its new home.

In 2023, over 86,000 people attended the Sundance Film Festival, including nearly 21,500 out-of-state visitors who needed essentials like lodging, car rentals, and meals during the festival. Georgia is uniquely positioned to accommodate the growth of the festival and welcome all its visitors. The state successfully hosted the Super Bowl in 2019 and will soon host multiple FIFA World Cup matches in 2026, including a semifinal match. Georgia boasts strong aviation and transportation infrastructure, including Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, the world's busiest airport, which can accommodate visitors from across the globe.

Additionally, Georgia's film and television workforce is rapidly growing. Productions have become increasingly attracted to the state, and institutions such as the Savannah College of Art and Design and the University of Georgia are preparing the next generation of film workers. In fact, in 2023, film and television productions spent \$4.1 billion in Georgia on nearly 400 productions of films, television shows, commercials, and music videos. Film and television production companies have also invested millions of dollars in production facilities and theatres across the state. Hosting the Sundance Film Festival in Georgia would showcase the state's significant contributions to the film industry and provide an unparalleled opportunity to foster connections between independent filmmakers, industry professionals, and audiences.

I encourage your full and fair consideration of the applications to host the Sundance Film Festival in Georgia. If you have any questions, please contact Annette Christie at (202) 224-1960 or Annette.Christie@warnock.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Reverend Raphael Warnock
United States Senator