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Indie film with Susan Sarandon set to film in Ocean City in September

'Ping Pong Summer' could have \$2 million economic impact, state says

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"Ping Pong Summer," an indie film starring Susan Sarandon, Amy Sedaris and John Hannah, is set to start filming for six weeks in Ocean City next month, the state announced today.

The Maryland Film Office estimates that producers will hire 90 local crew, actors and extras, as well as purchasing and renting goods and services from 140 Maryland businesses. The economic impact: \$2 million, according to estimates by the state.

The film is written and will be directed by Maryland native Mike Tully.

Here's the release from the state:

Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that independent film "Ping Pong Summer" will begin six weeks of filming in Ocean City in September. The coming-of-age comedy, which is written and will be directed by Maryland native Michael Tully, is set in Ocean City during the 1980's and is based on Tully's annual vacations to the beach.

The film's cast includes Academy Award winner Susan Sarandon ("Dead Man Walking", "Thelma and Louise", "Bull Durham"); Amy Sedaris ("Strangers with Candy", "The Good Wife"); and John Hannah ("The Mummy", "Four Weddings and a Funeral"). The Maryland Film Office estimates that this production could result in the hiring 90 local crew, actors and extras, and the purchase or renting goods and services from over 140 Maryland businesses. The direct, indirect and induced economic impact for the State of Maryland will be approximately \$2 million.

"We look forward to welcoming Marylander Michael Tully and the 'Ping Pong Summer'

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production team,” said Governor O’Malley. “Working together with our partners from Worcester County and Ocean City, we were able to secure this film that will strengthen our State’s economy, create jobs and highlight one of Maryland’s most family-friendly vacation destinations.”

“For 20 years I have fantasized about making “*Ping Pong Summer*” in Ocean City,” said writer and director Tully. “Now, thanks to the efforts of the State of Maryland, Worcester County, Ocean City and many enthusiastic people in Maryland, the time has come. I am grateful and excited to be able to recreate the summer vacation of my dreams on film in Ocean City.

“A huge goal with this film was always to give it an authentic sense of place, specifically Ocean City,” said producer George Rush “The State of Maryland, Worcester County and Ocean City have been extremely supportive towards our production. To say we are pleased to be here is an understatement.”

The Netflix series "House of Card" continues production in Maryland and the Emmy-nominated HBO series "VEEP" will be returning to Maryland to shoot their second season in the fall.

Maryland’s newly enacted Film Production Employment Act of 2011 helped to secure this production. The fund offers a partial tax credit for local production expenditures and encourages producers to use local film crews.

The Maryland Film Office, located in Baltimore and part of the Division of Tourism, Film and the Arts, is an agency of the state's Department of Business and Economic Development. It provides location scouting and pre-production research, in addition to acting as a government and community liaison throughout film production. For more information, visit MarylandFilm.org

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