



Behind the Scenes: The Business of Film in Our State

2025 Southeastern NC Regional Networking Luncheon
November 13 • Cape Fear Community College Union Station

Agenda

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| 11:30 am – Noon | Registration & Networking |
| Noon – 12:30 pm | Luncheon |
| 12:30 – 12:45 pm | Welcome & Introductions
Randall Johnson
Executive Director, Southeastern Office
North Carolina Biotechnology Center
<i>NCEDA Foundation Chair & NCEDA Past President</i> |
| | Legislative Update
Timothy Downs
Regional Director for Economic Development in North Carolina
Thomas & Hutton
<i>NCEDA Board of Directors</i> |
| 12:45 – 1:25 pm | Presentation
Kirk Englebright
President & CEO
Dark Horse Studios

Susi Hamilton
President & CEO
The Film Partnership of NC Foundation |
| 1:25 – 1:30 pm | Closing Remarks
Julie Pruett
Development Manager
Marlboro Development Team, Inc.
<i>NCEDA Board of Directors</i> |

Our Speakers



Kirk Englebright, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Dark Horse Stages, North Carolina's second film studio and the first constructed in more than four decades. A seasoned entrepreneur with a background in business development, he founded Dark Horse Stages in 2020 to bring state-of-the-art production facilities to the region. A native of rural North Carolina and graduate of East Carolina University, Kirk has applied his extensive leadership experience to position the studio as a premier destination for film and media production, known for its cutting-edge technology, exceptional service, and commitment to advancing North Carolina's creative economy.



Susi Hamilton, is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Film Partnership of North Carolina, a nonprofit organization dedicated to growing the state's film, television, and digital streaming industry through workforce development and advocacy. A lifelong public servant, she has spent more than 25 years serving North Carolina and her hometown of Wilmington. Susi represented District 18 in the North Carolina House of Representatives for four terms and later served as Secretary of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources under Governor Roy Cooper. She holds a Master of Public Administration from UNC Wilmington and a Bachelor of Arts in History from UNC Chapel Hill.

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