

NEWS / Monterey County Film Commission

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Film “Big Sur” named a finalist for California on Location Award

The location managers and scouts for the independent film, “Big Sur,” are finalists in the 17th Annual California on Location Awards (COLA). COLA is the premier awards



ceremony saluting film industry professionals for excellence during filming on-location in the state of California.

“Big Sur,” which is based on Jack Kerouac’s novel, filmed at several Big Sur and San Francisco locations last spring, and is one of three productions named as finalists in the category of Location Team of the Year, Independent Feature Film. The Monterey County Film Commission nominated the location team

and its location managers Peter Newfield and Gail Stempler, location scout Peter Moody, and Daniel Lee, location assistant. The winners will be announced at the COLA event at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles on Oct. 16.

“We’re proud to recognize the hard work of the location scouts and managers who make such a difference in the decisions on where film projects end up filming,” said Karen Nordstrand, director of marketing and film production for the Monterey County Film Commission. She particularly credits 30-year veteran location scout Peter Newfield of Soquel for keeping the “Big Sur” project in Monterey County even after Hwy. 1 road erosion took away access and created scheduling havoc. “Newfield’s location knowledge and communication with the film commission helped ensure this production still came here, instead of getting discouraged and going elsewhere.” The filming of “Big Sur” brought weeks of economic benefit to the local economy with hotels being filled, local crew being hired, and a boost to retailers, grocery stores, and restaurants.

California film commissioners and industry professionals nominate individuals and teams for COLAS, based on film, television and commercial production work performed in California in the past year. The core of each nomination is a 350-word essay describing the work that nominees performed to facilitate local filming. Film commission members of Film Liaisons in California, Statewide (FLICS) and Teamsters Local 399 vote on the finalists. COLA is a project of FLICS, a network of film commissioners and others seeking to promote and facilitate in-state filming. This year FilmL.A., Inc.—the Los Angeles not-for-profit film office—is serving as COLA event coordinator.

For more information see the COLA website, www.californiaonlocationawards.com.

For more on the Monterey County Film Commission, www.FilmMonterey.org. The MCFC is a nonprofit organization, created by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors in 1987, to boost the local economy through film production on-location.

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