

SALSICH AND CAPE SOKOL HOSTED “MASTER CLASS: INVESTING IN FILM” FOR CINEMA ST. LOUIS’ 31ST ANNUAL ST. LOUIS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Posted on November 15, 2022 by Capes Sokol



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Pete Salsich III, [the Screen Lawyer](#) and Chair of Capes Sokol's [Entertainment & Media](#) practice group, was a panelist on a presentation entitled “Master Class: Investing in Film,” hosted by Capes Sokol as part of [Cinema St. Louis’](#) 31st annual St. Louis International Film Festival.

The Master Class panel was moderated by Andrea Sporcic Klund, head of the [Missouri Film Office](#), and also included Casey Sunderland from [Creative Artists Agency's Media Finance Department](#) (appearing by Zoom from Los Angeles), and Daniel Gartner, an independent film producer in St. Louis.

Over 40 attendees, including filmmakers, potential investors, and community business leaders, learned about all aspects of investing in independent film, including the importance of a truly realistic budget, finding development funding, engaging with talent and working with distributors, and what investors should expect regarding mitigating risk and return on investment. Other topics included a discussion of the efforts to revive Missouri’s film tax incentive program and the emergence of fiscal sponsors to utilize non-profit organizations to fund films, especially in the documentary space.

The choice of a lawyer is an important decision and should not be based solely upon advertisements.

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The Master Class, and the networking happy hour that followed, demonstrated the depth and strength of the robust film community in St. Louis (and Missouri as a whole). Capes Sokol looks forward to continuing to support Cinema St. Louis and the Missouri film community.

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