

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS[®]
#LOVEVA



**VIRGINIA
IS FOR
FILM
LOVERS™
#VAFILM**

*Ruth Negga (left) stars as Mildred Loving and Joel Edgerton (right) stars as Richard Loving in Jeff Nichols' LOVING, filmed in Virginia in 2015
Photo credit: Ben Rothstein / Focus Features.*

♥ | VIRGINIA IS FOR FILM LOVERS

The film industry has had a significant economic impact in Virginia, building on an innovative film incentive program and a strong homegrown industry. In 2015, the total economic impact of Virginia's film industry was \$615.6 million. Since Fiscal Year 2011, film projects receiving incentives in Virginia have produced a return of \$11 to the Virginia economy for every \$1 invested.

AMC's **"TURN: Washington's Spies,"** PBS' **"Mercy Street,"** Fox News' **"Legends & Lies,"** along with the films, **"Imperium," "Permanent," "Believe," "Shooting the Prodigal," "Maine," "Burning Sands," "TRI," "Public Affairs," "In-Lawfully Yours"** and **"Loving,"** were filmed in Virginia in 2015 and 2016.

The Oscar-nominated film "Loving," shot in Central Virginia in 2015, put a well-deserved spotlight back onto the story of Virginians Richard and Mildred Loving and their role in legalizing interracial marriage in the United States. In 2016, Governor McAuliffe declared June 12th – the date of the landmark Supreme Court decision *Loving v. Virginia*— to be officially known as **Loving Day** in Virginia. In celebration of Loving Day and the upcoming 50th anniversary of the Court's decision, a major celebration will be held in Capitol Square in Richmond June 10th, celebrating multiculturalism, love, and honoring the legacy of the Lovings.

The inaugural **Pocahontas Reframed Film Festival** will take place at The Byrd Theatre in Richmond Nov. 17-19. The festival will feature films by and about American Indians, with community and industry leader discussions. The festival is led by representatives of Virginia's state-recognized Indian tribes, with creative support from leading Native American filmmakers Chris Eyre, Georgina Lightning, and George Aguilar.

Other Virginia film festivals:

- **Richmond International Film Festival**, Richmond, Feb. 27 – March 5
- **French Film Festival**, Richmond, March 27 – April 2
- **Experimental Film Virginia**, Cape Charles, July 1 – 15
- **PUSH! Film Festival**, Bristol, Dates TBD
- **Afrikana Independent Film Festival**, Richmond, Sept. 14 – 17
- **Virginia Film Festival 30th Anniversary**, Charlottesville, Dates TBD

Although not filmed in-state, Hampton served as the backdrop for the true story of Oscar-nominated **Hidden Figures**, about the three African-American women who were the minds behind the groundbreaking launch of astronaut John Glenn into orbit. Travelers are able to visit [NASA's Virginia Air & Space Center](#), located in Hampton and although not specifically related to the movie, travelers can also visit [NASA's Wallops Island](#) facility on the Eastern Shore. Pharrell Williams, originally from Hampton Roads, did the score for the film, and his non-profit [From One Hand to AnOTHER \(FOHTA\)](#), founded in Virginia Beach, encourages STEM education for youth.

Visit film.virginia.org for more information.