



March 4, 2016

As we celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of the UW Men's Crew team, I wanted to highlight another potential win for Washington's economy with the feature film adaptation of Daniel James Brown's book *The Boys in the Boat*.

*The Boys in the Boat* tells the incredible story of nine young men from working class families that banded together to form the 1936 University of Washington Husky crew team that went on to defy all odds and win the National Title and Olympic Gold.

*The Boys in the Boat* highlights what we all know and love about Washington State. Not only is Brown's book a compelling story, but it is our story to tell – and having the feature film here will pay enormous dividends.

The financial impact of filming *The Boys in the Boat* in Washington State would be transformative. With a budget six times the size of the average feature film in Washington State, the production would invest millions of dollars into Washington's economy and provide family-wage jobs for hundreds of Washington workers.

With worldwide distribution already in place, the film would portray the exceptional beauty of the area to audiences around the world and generate extraordinary tourism in Washington State. The global impact of the film will be monumental and SeaTac will soon stock both *Sleepless in Seattle* t-shirts AND *The Boys in the Boat* merchandise.

Washington Filmworks continues to be engaged in meaningful conversation with the Weinstein Company, which has optioned the rights to the book to make it into a film, which is slated to begin in 2017. And while is significant interest in filming here, Vancouver BC continues to be the front-runner.

The first – and the most important – step to ensure *The Boys in the Boat* will film in Washington State is to renew the film incentive. I urge you to extend the film incentive so that the feature film adaptation of *The Boys in the Boat* can be made here, at home, where the story and prosperity belong.

Thank you for your consideration.

Amy Lillard  
Executive Director, Washington Filmworks