



**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Alicia J. Keyes**  
Cabinet Secretary

**Amber Dodson**  
Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
August 24, 2021**

**Media Inquiries: Jennifer Esquivel**  
[jennifer@nmfilm.com](mailto:jennifer@nmfilm.com)  
**505-469-2915**

## **The New Mexico Film Office Announces the Feature Film *Chupa* has Begun Filming in New Mexico**

SANTA FE, N.M. – The New Mexico Film Office today announced the feature film *Chupa* is currently in production in the state for Netflix. Filming will take place from August - October 2021 in Estancia, the Zia Pueblo, Mesilla, Santa Fe, and Albuquerque New Mexico.

“*Chupa* is employing over 900 New Mexicans over the next 3 months, which continues our strong and ongoing relationship with Netflix”, said Amber Dodson, Director, New Mexico Film Office.

Jonás Cuarón’s directs *Chupa* and 26th Street Pictures Chris Columbus, Michael Barnathan and Mark Radcliffe are producing. Executive Producers are G. Mac Brown and Brendan Bellomo. Principal cast includes Oscar® nominee Demián Bichir, along with Evan Whitten, Nickolas Verdugo, and Ashley Ciarra.

The film follows a teenager (Whitten) who, while visiting his family in Mexico, gains an unlikely companion when he discovers a mythical creature hiding on his grandfather’s (Bichir) ranch. To save him, Alex, and his cousins (Verdugo & Ciarra) must embark on the adventure of a lifetime.

Jhamal Robinson, VP Physical Production, UCAN, at Netflix said, "We're excited to bring *Chupa* to New Mexico, where a great range of fantastic locations and experienced crews will help us bring this exceptional story to life."

The production is employing approximately 300 New Mexico crew members and 650 New Mexico background and extras.

The original screenplay was written by Marcus Rinehart, Sean Kennedy Moore, and Joe Barnathan, with rewrites by Jonás Cuarón.

For more information on the production contact: [\*\*chupaprod@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:chupaprod@gmail.com)

All film and television productions in New Mexico are required to adhere to the state's operative emergency public health order, associated public health restrictions and COVID-Safe Practices.

The New Mexico Film Office has released Back2One, a catchall set of principles, general recommendations, and resources for film and television productions operating during COVID-19. Back2One recommendations and other COVID-Safe Practices can be found at [\*\*nmfilm.com\*\*](http://nmfilm.com).

###



**The New Mexico Film Office**  
1100 S. St. Francis Drive, Suite 1213  
Santa Fe, NM 87505  
(505) 476-5600  
[info@nmfilm.com](mailto:info@nmfilm.com)  
[nmfilm.com](http://nmfilm.com)

A division of the [New Mexico Economic Development Department](#)