

“The Heart of It All” Documentary to Shine National Spotlight on Ohio

Mekka Don Returns Home, Teaming Up with Some of Ohio’s Top Talent to Show off the Buckeye State’s Greatness

Columbus, Ohio. (May 4, 2016) – The man behind some of the most beloved Ohio music anthems is now bringing his love for his home state to the rest of the nation. “The Heart of It All” is a documentary that will chronicle a multi-month “return” of Mekka Don to Ohio, highlighting the greatness of the state, through his unique lens.

Known to many for his music that was born from his love of hip hop and Ohio State Athletics, Mekka is embarking on a new project to show the world there’s more to Ohio than just sports.

“We hope to answer Ohio's why,” said Mekka, narrator, host and producer. “We will look into why so much history, innovation, ambition and greatness has been born out of this unassuming state in middle-America. We hope to shed some light on why those of us from the Buckeye State are so proud.”

Traditional documentaries can be too long, stale and lack excitement with their primary purpose being historical narration. The goal of this documentary is to break that mold.

Producing this endeavor is the Columbus, Ohio based 5 Stones Group. As recipients of 10 Emmy Awards, 5 Stones’ national acclaim and experience and their connection to Ohio gives them a unique ability to tell these stories in a compelling way.

“My passion for storytelling and my love for Ohio, where I live with my wife and three children, is just one of the reasons I signed on to this project,” said Mike Edwards, founder of 5 Stones Group. “I love telling stories and Ohio, is full of great stories to tell.”

The project will be broken down into multiple 10-15 minute episodes and will feature many of Ohio’s top and unique businesses, people, ideas, and talent. Each feature will key in on the subject's "Ohio" story.

Each episode will have a specific release date but will also be archived online, making it much more accessible to today's digital consumer. Episodes can be viewed from mobile phones, tablets, laptops and TVs. However, the visual quality of the product won't be compromised, regardless of platform thanks in part to Pillar Technology.

To be involved in a project like this one is a great opportunity,” said Bob Meyers, CEO, Pillar Technology. “We have been designing and developing digital experiences for 20 years and believe in creating a seamless experience for customers. Being a part of a project highlighting the greatness of things happening in our own backyard is exciting.”

In addition to the documentary episodes there will also be a “Heart of it All” digital artwork series highlighting key moments and people in Ohio, a series of behind the scenes videos and a “Heart of

it All” soundtrack. The artwork and behind the scenes clips will be created by Columbus School of Art and Design students Joe Gemma and Joe Lewis.

"There is so much talent that comes from Ohio and it was important for us to not only create a project about Ohio but to do so with talent cultivated here, said Viswant Korrapati, Mekka Don’s business partner and creative director for the project. “You have to be from here to fully understand it. That was the vision behind the project and why we're so excited about how it has come together."

For more information go to www.heartofitalohio.com.

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