

00:00:09:03 - 00:00:09:21

Welcome, everybody.

00:00:09:21 - 00:00:15:21

I'm Ogden City Mayor, Ben Nadolski, and we are at the Ogden Way Podcast, a place where we tell the stories of Ogden

00:00:16:01 - 00:00:18:02

by telling the stories about its people.

00:00:18:02 - 00:00:24:02

And today,
we are welcomed with a new friend, a friend of Ogden, Dawn Hauptner.

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And Dawn is with the Rain Dance Film Festival.

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And if you track it on the news lately,
we just announced that the Rain Dance is coming together.

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Yes, right.

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Yes we did, and we are very excited about it.

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And I am very excited to be announcing it.

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So for those that don't know, I mean, we'll forgive them.

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There's people out there that don't track every headline, I suppose,

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but there'll be people that are wanting to learn more about Rain Dance from this, this episode,

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and there'll be some people
that learn about Rain Dance from this for the first time.

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Tell us about Rain Dance.

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Rain Dance Film Festival is a London based film basketball.

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I was founded in 1992 by Ellie Grove, who had the honor of meeting.

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Yes, I have now. Yep.

00:01:08:12 - 00:01:14:12

And it's all about independent filmmakers
and all about emerging independent filmmakers.

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So, that's what we like to focus on, is helping our existing filmmakers,
take it to the next step.

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We put in front of an international audience and, you know,
and see where we can help them, take their film to the next level.

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So when you think about an independent filmmaker,

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you think about independent film, and you think about the person
and the people, the innovation and the creativity behind it.

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Honestly, I think about Elliot.

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I mean, he's such a big character, but he's so passionate. He's so driven.

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He's you can tell he's creative, but his personality is just magnetic, too.

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Yes. Right.

00:01:51:08 - 00:01:55:22

Yes and yes. Elliot is, he is quite a character.

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He's such a terrific person. He was a filmmaker himself. And,

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you know, really just

00:02:02:08 - 00:02:08:11

built this festival from the ground up and and built this festival and created it all

00:02:08:11 - 00:02:15:23

for emerging filmmakers because he wanted to see independent filmmakers, be given more opportunities.

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Right.

00:02:16:19 - 00:02:22:19

And so when I talk, when I talk to you, I talk with the team, back in London, talk with Elliott,

00:02:23:13 - 00:02:26:03

the sense I get from Rain Dance and the thing that I really like

00:02:26:03 - 00:02:32:03

that, you know, maybe the people that are listening or watching wouldn't know unless we talk about it is really the

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the intention behind this, and I get that a lot. But I hear it from Elliott.

00:02:37:10 - 00:02:43:14

He really wants to leave behind a legacy of creativity and he wants to create opportunity for people

00:02:43:23 - 00:02:49:00

to just create and to innovate and to drive and become, you know what I mean? Yes.

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And that's really the spirit of Rain Dance that hooked me.

00:02:53:02 - 00:02:55:06

-That, to me, makes Rain Dance

00:02:55:06 - 00:02:59:09

a really good fit for Ogden, because that's the kind of community we want to be. Right?

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That's the thing with Rain Dance is, is we're very community based.

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And, you know, especially I mean, right here in Utah, what we're bringing is we're not here to take over.

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We're not here to replace.

00:03:11:19 - 00:03:15:09

We're here to be part of the entire community.

00:03:15:09 - 00:03:18:23

And it starts with Ogden, and it works its way out.

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And we want everybody to be involved in Rain Dance because we want to connect with all of our community, organizations here in Ogden.

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And we want. Yeah, we just want to connect with the schools.
We want to connect with other film festivals here.

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We want to be part of building the future of film in Utah.

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And we're going to be set and all of it. Right? We're excited about.
That's why I'm excited about.

00:03:44:08 - 00:03:48:12

And that's like, I'm not an independent filmmaker.
I don't know how to do that.

00:03:48:12 - 00:03:51:18

Certainly I would love to consume it. Right, right.

00:03:51:18 - 00:03:54:19

But the way you talk about it resonates with me.

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And you don't have to be an independent filmmaker
or even someone that's already a lover of that.

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We we love what we do here in Ogden.

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And I love the way you talk, because that's so Ogden.

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It's just so Ogden. Right? We do. Yeah.

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After our meeting yesterday with our London team, they they all just.

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Felt the same way.

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And and we all agree.

00:04:19:12 - 00:04:24:18

And they all was ending the emails afterwards
and saying these, these city leaders are phenomenal.

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Oh, thanks.

00:04:25:22 - 00:04:30:02

They feel like it's a perfect fit for what radio stands for.

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And and we're excited about that.

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And and we have had so far 100% positive,

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feedback from everybody in the community.

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And, you know, that's what makes us so excited
about being part of all that, because it's the right fit for us.

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Right. And like I was telling you,
and I think I told this Alia do in the team that it transcends politics.

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It's just it's not a partisan.

00:04:55:18 - 00:05:01:06

We're talking about people and creativity.

We're just talking about helping people thrive and be their best.

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Right?

00:05:02:08 - 00:05:04:08

We're just talking about community, right?

00:05:04:08 - 00:05:08:05

We're just talking about lifting people and lifting opportunity. And so,

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I love that you're a part of this.

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Just that that fit came together.

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When I hear people talk about it, there's a lot of, like, intrigue

00:05:19:19 - 00:05:23:08

because I think there are people in the industry
that know what Rain Dance is.

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And when we when I ask people that I know that are more
tied to the industry, they're like, oh, wow, that's a big deal, right?

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So for those that don't know how big of a deal this is, what is Rain
Dance is position in the industry internationally.

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It's a very it has a very strong position.

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First of all, we get more submissions than most other film festivals
we have over 70,000 submissions.

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Well, I do,

00:05:50:11 - 00:05:54:19

I do festival in London
and that's more than most of the other festivals.

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People, the reason why we get so many submissions is because we,

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we are the platform for emerging filmmakers.

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And so emerging filmmakers submit to Rain Dance
because it's a platform for them.

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You know, they're not having to submit
and they are in competition against professional filmmakers.

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American citizen, against other emerging filmmakers.

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And that's why we attract some,

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and that's why so many people have respect for Rain Dance,
because we provide this international platform

00:06:36:15 - 00:06:43:03

for filmmakers to really kind of get to the point
where they don't know where to go next.

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They are out there, they're making films,
they went to school, they got their degree, and now what do we do?

00:06:50:06 - 00:06:50:14
Right.

00:06:50:14 - 00:06:55:15
You know, and that's where we step in
and that's what we're excited about with Utah

00:06:55:15 - 00:07:01:14
and, and, you know, with odds
and is there's a lot of emerging filmmakers here.

00:07:01:14 - 00:07:04:22
There's a lot of passionate, talented filmmakers.

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And we want to help those filmmakers.
We want to help elevate them to the next level.

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Yeah. You said that

00:07:12:18 - 00:07:15:19
emerging filmmakers compete with each other,
not with professional filmmakers,

00:07:15:19 - 00:07:23:00
but what you're doing by giving a platform to emerging, it's
you're creating professional filmmakers from the emerging community.

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Right. Exactly.

00:07:24:09 - 00:07:31:07
And so and that's kind of where our position is,
and that's what we're known for internationally, for taking filmmakers

00:07:31:07 - 00:07:40:09
when they're at the emerging level and giving them these platforms
to continue to move up the levels and up the ranks.

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Right.

00:07:41:16 - 00:07:47:16
Networking through, different types of competitions
we did in this film festival.

00:07:48:12 - 00:07:56:20
You know, we just we give them so many avenues for them to look into
and, and that's what helps them to take the film to the next level.

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So when you also use the term competition,

00:08:02:00 - 00:08:05:06
so I didn't grow up in the arts. I didn't grow up in film.

00:08:05:06 - 00:08:13:07
I grew up in sport, and I talk a lot about sports as a mechanism
in a way to to become my better self.

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Right. And competition is an important part of that for me.

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And we talk about competition around here, not that we're competing
with each other in terms of I won, therefore you lose.

00:08:22:11 - 00:08:28:11
It's a matter of like lifting ourselves better and just being better
and always setting a higher and higher standard for ourselves.

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Right.

00:08:29:21 - 00:08:35:14

And so I love that element of what you guys do too, for the emerging filmmaker and artist community.

00:08:35:14 - 00:08:45:15

And when you think about it, filmmakers I see and a lot of independent filmmakers, they're all they're all out there to help each other.

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And that's why when you see these independent films,

00:08:49:20 - 00:08:53:01

you have these filmmakers are helping these communities.

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Yep. They're making these early sounds and making the short films a little bit over here and helping them.

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Filmmakers help each other. Right.

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And even though they may be in competition with each other, it's not a type of competition where it's it's a fun competition.

00:09:08:16 - 00:09:16:16

And they are excited for each other because if this one wins, they probably did something on that film to help them out, right.

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You know, and so.

00:09:18:10 - 00:09:21:04

And that and that helps them be connected to success too.

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It's such a strong community, with filmmakers, with independent filmmakers.

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And and that's what we're, we're so passionate about giving independent filmmakers these international platforms.

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Yeah.

00:09:35:06 - 00:09:42:10

And when I first started coming to Utah, the first thing I noticed is, you know, I talked to everybody

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is, there's a lot of passionate independent filmmakers here.

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And, and it really that was the first method for us to use, and, you know, and then, of course, I walked down 25th Street and I saw it on

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and then but, you know, it's this independent film is for everyone because either you enjoy watching it or you enjoy taking part in it.

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It's like filmmaking or you're editor or you're an actor or you're,

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you know, it's just I've met so many people they do this job with, they're like, but my real passion is I'm an actor.

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Yeah. Yeah.

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So it's just it's for everyone.

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I mean our communications director for the city Council Brandon Garside, that's his day job, that's his profession.

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But in his personal time he loves to do theater.

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You know, he's a he's
got a great singing voice. He's got a really good stage presence.

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There's a lot of people here that have a lot of that creativity.

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And I think it's a reflection of like Utah
is known for a number of things. Right.

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And sometimes people use those things to,
to kind of malign us a little bit.

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But what we are is a very international state.

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We send people through, through the LDS
faith all over the world to serve, and we learn languages.

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We learn cultures, right?

00:10:56:19 - 00:10:59:04

And we learn customs and and so on.

00:10:59:04 - 00:11:05:04

And the LDS faith pushes a lot around, the arts,
especially singing and music, etc.

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and, and then they come back to Utah
and that's makes us a, an international state in and of itself.

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But then here in Ogden,
we're a very diverse city far beyond just the LDS faith.

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Right? Like we are a cross-section of America
right here in Ogden. Right?

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And that's part of why I call us Ogden USA,
because we could be like anywhere USA.

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But we're not just anywhere
USA, we're everything USA right here in Ogden, USA, you know? Yes.

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And you know and and just to compliment you city,
all of the city leaders,

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you really do represent the attitude and the positivity in your city.

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And they said, ask me that after the meeting.

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They said, you know, will we love the city leaders. You know,
this is really everyone in Ogden like that,

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Isn't it wild?

00:11:57:07 - 00:11:57:20

Right.

00:11:57:20 - 00:12:04:00

And and I said, the city leaders are very representative
of what I have experienced with everybody.

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It's awesome. Thank you.

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You know, and it's just that's why it's it's such a great place.

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And, you know, I just, you know,
I talk about Ogden all the time, and people are starting to get this.

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You know, we were getting, you know, why did you think, oh, did I see?

00:12:19:11 - 00:12:24:15

The number one reason is the people. Who did that business card,
I didn't say to you, so I'm talking to Cindy.

00:12:24:15 - 00:12:27:11

Weloth, chief of staff. I think you just.

00:12:27:11 - 00:12:33:11

You saw me hand this to Cindy on the way when I came
in, I'm like, hey, remind me to talk to you about Steve the Pitmaster.

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Right? But it's the exact same thing. I just came from lunch.

00:12:37:17 - 00:12:41:19

When there's a new business that comes into town,
I try to go especially like a restaurant, try to go eat there.

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I hope to meet the owner if the owners involved,

00:12:45:00 - 00:12:50:07

take a selfie, maybe, and then kind of put it out to welcome the town
and yeah, in this.

00:12:50:07 - 00:12:55:16

But the Steve story at Black Sabbath
barbecue right here by the river garden, if you haven't been there.

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Holy crap. You got to go.

00:12:57:07 - 00:13:01:18

Oh, my gosh, the food's phenomenal.
But the but the the atmosphere is phenomenal.

00:13:01:18 - 00:13:07:01

If you go there you are going to see Ogden in a nutshell.
You're going experience.

00:13:07:01 - 00:13:10:17

You're not going to see it. Just see it. You're going to feel it.

00:13:10:17 - 00:13:13:19

Steve is new to business in Ogden, okay.

00:13:13:19 - 00:13:17:09

But his whole staff, the guy's got energy from for days.

00:13:17:09 - 00:13:21:14

He loves Ogden, loves our town, loves
the world, loves people around them.

00:13:21:14 - 00:13:25:10

His staff exude the same energy, right? Yeah. And.

00:13:25:10 - 00:13:29:19

And I'm like, how's doing business? Logan's like,
oh my gosh, we freaking love it here, right?

00:13:29:19 - 00:13:32:21

We love Ogden. We love the people.

00:13:32:21 - 00:13:33:23

The same thing.

00:13:33:23 - 00:13:40:09

So what he experienced is what I told you
that you told me you experienced, which sometimes we take for granted.

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You guys, we take it for granted how people feel when they come here.

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It is an amazing feeling and, the more I talk to people

00:13:50:04 - 00:13:56:06

about it, they kind of go, oh, I think I do see why you hate dogs.

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And I'm like, it was nice down.

00:13:58:06 - 00:13:59:00

And then to the top.

00:13:59:00 - 00:14:04:14

Soon as I started talking to people in 25th Street,
I'm like every other city got crossed off the list, right?

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We we knew that this was it.

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This is where from just the venues and the people and the feel.

00:14:11:06 - 00:14:16:01

And I just the the energy here, the creativity.

00:14:16:01 - 00:14:18:03

It just it all fit right.

00:14:18:03 - 00:14:22:14

All fit. Rain Dance film festival. Okay,
so here's something I want to say to the listeners.

00:14:22:14 - 00:14:28:05

Is that a lot of people, a lot of people have reached out to me again
across the political spectrum.

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Right.

00:14:28:14 - 00:14:30:17

Which is the most beautiful part about all of it.

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Exactly is that they're like, mayor, great job landing this. Right.

00:14:36:02 - 00:14:43:12

And I just want to say again, great job landing Rain Dance
because yeah, we had a role to play in our discussions right.

00:14:44:08 - 00:14:51:03

And but far preceding that was Ogden putting our best foot forward
totally unknowingly.

00:14:51:19 - 00:14:54:02

You came into our city and you just experienced us,

00:14:55:05 - 00:14:55:19

right?

00:14:55:19 - 00:14:59:06

And the first thing I did was to start talking to people

00:14:59:06 - 00:15:05:18

and, just went on 23rd Street and walked into businesses
and introduced myself and just said, hey, what?

00:15:06:02 - 00:15:09:00

What would have thought that we did this?

00:15:09:00 - 00:15:13:19

And they all went, oh, amazing. That would be wonderful, right?

00:15:13:19 - 00:15:17:11

We would be, oh, I would be so excited.
This would be the best thing in the world.

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I'm going, wow. I mean, all they did was ask a simple question.

00:15:21:01 - 00:15:27:03

I just get this this positivity and this excitement,
and I go into the next business,

00:15:27:07 - 00:15:31:22

do the same thing, same exact response,
start meeting with the organizations.

00:15:31:22 - 00:15:32:21

Same. Exactly.

00:15:32:21 - 00:15:35:21

And I was like, this is incredible, right?

00:15:35:21 - 00:15:39:09

This is an incredible city.

00:15:39:09 - 00:15:43:09

That's that's you guys. That's us. Right? And I'm like, this,
this is it.

00:15:43:09 - 00:15:48:00

This is this is the right deal.
This is what we need. Yeah. We've been looking for it.

00:15:48:00 - 00:15:52:14

And the United States is a feeling.
And that's the authenticity of our city.

00:15:52:14 - 00:15:55:19

And I got. Very authentic. I've got a friend that calls it authentic.

00:15:57:05 - 00:15:58:02

Right.

00:15:58:02 - 00:16:02:11

And and so our city put our best foot forward by being us, you guys.

00:16:02:11 - 00:16:04:05

That's what that's the point I'm trying to make.

00:16:04:05 - 00:16:06:12

And that's where the biggest differences are made.

00:16:06:12 - 00:16:12:14

It's not around this negativity and toxicity in this partizanship
and that I'm going to get mine.

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And you're going to you're going to be pay the price for that.

00:16:15:17 - 00:16:20:21

We're in this business to build and to lift
and to love and to serve. Right.

00:16:20:21 - 00:16:26:12

And so when we are those people and we are that city,
these are the good things that come.

00:16:26:12 - 00:16:31:01

Good things happen that way. Pitmaster Steve happens that way. Right?

00:16:31:01 - 00:16:31:21

I have to go there.

00:16:31:21 - 00:16:37:21

You have to, I'm telling you, and I hope Steve's there
when you're there, because his energy overflows at the place

00:16:38:03 - 00:16:41:19

and you'll feel it from his staff,
there's no doubt. But this guy is an enormous character.

00:16:41:19 - 00:16:43:00

I felt it everywhere.

00:16:43:00 - 00:16:48:16

I mean, just I mean, in all these places
and 25th Street, I come here all the time and,

00:16:49:20 - 00:16:52:21

it's just, you know, I love going to the Union Station. Yep.

00:16:52:21 - 00:16:56:15

I like it there. The other hand on your back again.

00:16:56:15 - 00:16:58:23

There you go. Yeah.

00:16:58:23 - 00:17:00:01

You have that.

00:17:00:01 - 00:17:05:08

You just you're just getting getting settled in. Right? Exactly.
And it's just, you know, I love coming to your events.

00:17:05:08 - 00:17:06:11

I've gone to the car, so.

00:17:06:11 - 00:17:09:21

And I've gone to the farmers market, numerous.

00:17:09:21 - 00:17:12:13

Farmers markets, awesome car shows. Awesome.

00:17:12:13 - 00:17:14:06

Just downtown, 25th Street. Awesome.

00:17:14:06 - 00:17:15:00

It is.

00:17:15:00 - 00:17:17:13

And it's just I just love the feeling

00:17:17:13 - 00:17:23:22

when I just down the street and, and just go into the little shops
and eat it, one of the beautiful restaurants.

00:17:23:22 - 00:17:28:13

And everybody is just so friendly and so happy
and I mean, that's all of who I am, right?

00:17:28:13 - 00:17:33:13

Happy and healthy.
But that's the thing is, the energy is infectious. And I think that,

00:17:34:14 - 00:17:36:20

you know, we all have a tendency to fall

00:17:36:20 - 00:17:43:11

for this narrative that we see on TV and in the media
and the headlines that we have to be us against them all the time.

00:17:43:18 - 00:17:48:18

Right.
And the only good things come if I win at the behest of your loss.

00:17:48:18 - 00:17:49:06

Right.

00:17:49:06 - 00:17:55:00

And that to me, that loses sight of the mindset that I talk about,
which is an abundance mindset.

00:17:55:00 - 00:18:01:06

And that's a very cultural thing here in Utah, that there's room

for all of us to succeed not only as a room,

00:18:02:02 - 00:18:06:00

but my success begets yours, and yours begets mine. Right.

00:18:06:00 - 00:18:08:03

And that's a very cultural thing here in Utah.

00:18:08:03 - 00:18:13:19

And I think that we owe a lot of that to the LDS faith and the history and culture of the LDS faith, too.

00:18:13:19 - 00:18:15:19

But when I came here for the first time, I felt it.

00:18:15:19 - 00:18:21:01

And I was like, I like that, positivity begets positivity and success.

00:18:21:01 - 00:18:25:22

Positivity begets success, you know, success begets success.

00:18:25:22 - 00:18:30:01

And so I this is very important to say.

00:18:30:01 - 00:18:35:08

I said, this is, you know, Rain Dance and just film festival.

00:18:35:08 - 00:18:39:05

You know, we are we want to be part of a community.

00:18:39:05 - 00:18:46:09

And, you know, the thing is, is we need to find a community that's going to embrace us, that's going to be part of what we're doing.

00:18:46:20 - 00:18:49:21

And we're not just coming in. And and I want will be the festival.

00:18:49:21 - 00:19:00:12

And then again, you know, we're building education whether you want something, you look for opportunities, with workshops and masterclasses.

00:19:00:20 - 00:19:05:08

Right. Just all these opportunities that we want to bring to the area.

00:19:05:08 - 00:19:13:12

But the most important thing to us is we needed a community that would embrace us and say, yes, please do this here because, yes.

00:19:14:05 - 00:19:18:13

So when you talk about that, the way you talk about it now, people are probably getting a sense for yours.

00:19:18:13 - 00:19:23:15

In my early conversations and why I decided that this was a good fit for Ogden.

00:19:23:15 - 00:19:26:19

I mean, not that it was just my choice alone, right?

00:19:26:19 - 00:19:29:12

But if we had blown you off, I don't. You probably wouldn't be here.

00:19:30:12 - 00:19:31:08

Right?

00:19:31:08 - 00:19:32:11

And so

00:19:32:11 - 00:19:35:12

these are the kinds of conversations we had you guys, when we look at a good fit,

00:19:35:12 - 00:19:38:21

because I don't want Rain Dance to come in and just say, wear Rain Dance.

00:19:38:21 - 00:19:44:13

This is only ours. We don't you don't get to play here.

You don't get to play here. We're here. That's not the mindset we get.

00:19:44:13 - 00:19:47:00

We? I see that and feel that abundance mindset.

00:19:47:00 - 00:19:52:09

You guys from Rain Dance
that makes them such a strong fit for Ogden. Right? Right.

00:19:52:09 - 00:19:55:03

And that's, that's the feeling that we have from us.

00:19:55:03 - 00:19:58:11

And, and that's why we just, you know, we know that it's a good fit.

00:19:58:11 - 00:20:06:06

And, you know, because everything that we're bringing here and that
we want to base and, and, and, you know, we want to be part of it.

00:20:07:06 - 00:20:12:02

And, and even in the whole state of Utah,
when I get okay, anything when I hear.

00:20:12:02 - 00:20:13:09

You're to add to it.

00:20:13:09 - 00:20:18:11

We want to be part of the building of the future of film in Utah.

00:20:18:11 - 00:20:20:15

And we wanted they set it right.

00:20:20:15 - 00:20:22:16

And and that's what's important to us.

00:20:22:16 - 00:20:26:03

And that's why we are making so many connections

00:20:26:03 - 00:20:32:23

to so many different organizations within Ogden
and within the state of Utah, because we're here today.

00:20:33:18 - 00:20:37:23

Yep. Together. Rain Dance cannot build film by themselves.

00:20:37:23 - 00:20:42:11

We have to be part of the building.
Did you hear that? We're here to build. We're here to build.

00:20:42:11 - 00:20:43:14

We're here to build.

00:20:43:14 - 00:20:47:17

We're we're here to do the work to do, to create, to help lift.

00:20:47:17 - 00:20:50:21

That's community building. We're building a community. Yes.

00:20:50:21 - 00:20:56:12

Sometimes people in business talk about it in terms of ecosystems, too.
And I think that you guys have the,

00:20:58:04 - 00:21:03:15

the reach and the power and the
and the ability to bring to Ogden a like a core nucleus.

00:21:03:15 - 00:21:08:22

You're a big piece of what could become a really rich ecosystem
of creativity. Right.

00:21:08:22 - 00:21:12:17

And I think that you can bring some plug and play pieces to that.

00:21:12:17 - 00:21:17:16

And each one of those things can become a core of other,

00:21:17:16 - 00:21:19:16

ecosystem services, if that makes sense.

00:21:19:16 - 00:21:23:06

Well, it does, and and that's the thing that film is the ecosystem.

00:21:23:06 - 00:21:30:12

This film is so broad and so good, and it encompasses so many different opportunities.

00:21:31:09 - 00:21:34:16

For all different kinds of people.

00:21:34:16 - 00:21:39:06

And, you know, and that's why we're looking at opening the charter schools.

00:21:39:06 - 00:21:44:00

I think it's when they're young and we want to start providing them all these opportunities

00:21:44:00 - 00:21:50:00

so that they go to school here, and then they go to college here, and then they come back and they work here.

00:21:50:05 - 00:21:51:01

So let's talk.

00:21:51:01 - 00:21:52:15

Let's talk about the charter school more specifically,

00:21:52:15 - 00:21:59:03

because that has an impact not just on the youth, not just on Ogden, but it also could fit really well with what we were states doing.

00:21:59:12 - 00:22:02:04

And even the University of Utah. Right.

00:22:02:04 - 00:22:05:05

So tell us more about the charter school and what that model would look like.

00:22:05:05 - 00:22:08:08

What we're still going through the approval process with the state. Yep.

00:22:09:22 - 00:22:15:00

So, what we're looking at with the charter school is,

00:22:15:00 - 00:22:24:02

first opening in 3620, the school, and then we'll start, the 75 school so that eventually we will have that 50 participation.

00:22:24:18 - 00:22:30:15

It will be the only charter school in the world that's directly affiliated with an international film festival.

00:22:30:15 - 00:22:35:23

And it will be the only professional training elementary school in the state of Utah.

00:22:35:23 - 00:22:39:14

So what we're looking at doing is we developed

00:22:39:14 - 00:22:43:06

and educational model of artist. And it's,

00:22:43:06 - 00:22:45:04

I think about 15 years ago.

00:22:45:04 - 00:22:50:09

And, it's a very successful program where it's an art space exploration.

00:22:50:09 - 00:22:54:05

So we don't integrate arts and we start with the artists.

00:22:54:05 - 00:22:58:04

So all of the core subjects are taught through the arts,

00:22:58:04 - 00:23:04:16

which is, a different model than most other schools

used to kind of take the model of it. And,

00:23:06:02 - 00:23:10:17

it's very successful because it's are learning in a different manner.

00:23:10:17 - 00:23:13:01

There's a lot of creativity base to it.

00:23:13:01 - 00:23:18:23

And also in the academic side, there's less confusion.

00:23:18:23 - 00:23:22:12

So we kind of have this, this, it's very different.

00:23:22:12 - 00:23:27:13

We do more of a classical training for all right, academic side.

00:23:27:13 - 00:23:31:18

So it's not just this and pushing buttons and being on the computer all day.

00:23:31:18 - 00:23:36:02

There's, you know, doing that thing of writing with and pencil and paper and erasing.

00:23:36:02 - 00:23:39:18

So they have whole paper and, you know, things like that.

00:23:39:18 - 00:23:42:17

And then but for our,

00:23:42:17 - 00:23:50:10

arts side for performing arts, visual arts and, film, they'll be introduced to the most advanced technology.

00:23:51:04 - 00:24:01:06

So kind of partnering this, these two different types of teaching together, one without using a very next technology on the academic side

00:24:01:13 - 00:24:10:12

and then one introducing advanced technology on the art side is going to provide students in Ogden the most unique,

00:24:11:16 - 00:24:14:23

arts training that they could get anywhere.

00:24:14:23 - 00:24:18:22

And then we're will be having industry professionals.

00:24:18:22 - 00:24:21:15

We'll be able to,

00:24:21:15 - 00:24:24:14

have our students perform at Rain Dance every year.

00:24:24:14 - 00:24:29:00

They'll be very immersed into the Rain Dance Film Festival.

00:24:29:00 - 00:24:35:04

And to them, you know, film festivals, it just be a way of life because right now they're going to grow up and,

00:24:35:20 - 00:24:44:11

you know, so and then beyond our school, we have all of our, our training and our, workshops, and we're working with the NCA,

00:24:45:04 - 00:24:52:22

because we want to be able to offer all of our workshops and competitions for kids ages four years old to 12th grade for free.

00:24:54:01 - 00:25:00:01

Because we want to bring that training outside of that school because our school can't train everybody, right?

00:25:00:04 - 00:25:09:06

We want to work with all the schools, sure, all day and be able to offer this to all kids and then to start training

00:25:09:17 - 00:25:12:07

and start being part of the Rain Dance film Festival. Right.

00:25:12:07 - 00:25:18:23

And to clarify, Oscar's Organics temporary arts over here at the monarch and right in the heart in the center of our arts district.

00:25:19:14 - 00:25:20:03

Right.

00:25:20:03 - 00:25:25:21

So so when you came and looked at Ogden, certainly you made your way over to the monarch, major way over to Oka.

00:25:25:21 - 00:25:27:07

Oh, you got to

00:25:28:09 - 00:25:30:10

you got to the Arts District.

00:25:30:10 - 00:25:34:02

Certainly. It's a it's a district becoming still. Yes.

00:25:34:02 - 00:25:36:01

What do you see in the Arts District here in Ogden?

00:25:36:01 - 00:25:39:11

That when you first look at it.

00:25:39:11 - 00:25:47:04

Well, we saw, we saw a lot of opportunity and we saw a lot of opportunity for growth and opportunity.

00:25:47:14 - 00:25:49:21

Part of that was,

00:25:49:21 - 00:25:59:03

you know, if we get the approval with the state to open up, the charter school, then we would like to have that located in the Arts district.

00:25:59:20 - 00:26:04:14

And, just everything else that we have planned.

00:26:04:14 - 00:26:14:11

As far as for the film festival goes, we'd like to headquarter everything in the arts district so that we could continue to build that.

00:26:14:11 - 00:26:21:21

And, you know, I mean, so far the, I think creative district, I think is, is phenomenal.

00:26:22:12 - 00:26:27:07

And, you know, and I think that with some growth it's just going to keep getting better and better.

00:26:27:07 - 00:26:28:15

I totally agree.

00:26:28:15 - 00:26:34:22

So one of the things that I have really talked about a lot is, you know, arts and culture, entertainment, etc.

00:26:35:03 - 00:26:41:01

are a big component of our, of our future, of our downtown and of our revitalization and economically downtown

00:26:41:01 - 00:26:44:12

and one of the things that makes us really well with that is innovation.

00:26:44:12 - 00:26:47:15

And we've got a, a really strong and budding,

00:26:48:23 - 00:26:54:06

aerospace and defense industry, you know, with the positioning of our city next to Hill Air Force Base

00:26:54:06 - 00:27:01:11

and the positioning of the Air Force base in terms of the world

mission, right for world peace and, our nation's defense.

00:27:01:11 - 00:27:10:14

But in terms of world defense and peace, with our nuclear armament and deterrence, etc., there's a lot of need for innovation and,

00:27:11:11 - 00:27:17:19

technology advanced manufacturing, to face defense and aerospace, you know, contractors.

00:27:17:19 - 00:27:23:19

And that can be an ecosystem as well in and of itself and needs to be more so here in downtown.

00:27:24:09 - 00:27:28:01

And so we're taking steps to try and help build that piece of our downtown.

00:27:28:01 - 00:27:28:08

See it.

00:27:28:08 - 00:27:29:23

But that

00:27:29:23 - 00:27:31:06

that's the point, right?

00:27:31:06 - 00:27:35:03

It's creativity. And innovation coming together. Right.

00:27:35:03 - 00:27:41:03

Well, it is because when you think about the entertainment industry and it's so broad,

00:27:41:18 - 00:27:50:13

and you think about, you know, the Air Force base, you know, they use filming, they, they film different things and they,

00:27:52:08 - 00:27:54:07

they have their pennies pass.

00:27:54:07 - 00:27:59:22

And I just they're marketing their right for the film industry encompasses.

00:27:59:22 - 00:28:05:22

So much that, you know, being able to start training kids in kindergarten,

00:28:06:20 - 00:28:13:04

it gives them so many opportunities to look into and so many different paths that they can take.

00:28:13:17 - 00:28:16:04

And and that's what we want our things to do.

00:28:16:04 - 00:28:18:00

And then we want them to be the ones

00:28:18:00 - 00:28:24:07

to come back and open the start up companies right there and then come back, open a post production company open.

00:28:24:07 - 00:28:29:00

And that'd be, you know, studio, you know, come look at the city.

00:28:29:00 - 00:28:33:12

Come look at the Rain Dance Studios number, you know, come work with the film festival.

00:28:33:12 - 00:28:37:04

You know, it's just we wanted to train our own industry here.

00:28:37:04 - 00:28:42:08

You build the industry and then keep them here by giving them the end product.

00:28:42:08 - 00:28:47:07

Right.

So what we've explained now, now we're at this point in our conversation

00:28:48:06 - 00:28:53:01

is what I want people to take away from the power and potential of this partnership.

00:28:53:01 - 00:28:55:04

It's more than a festival,

00:28:55:04 - 00:28:59:08

right? And sure, the festival is going to be like the first step.

00:28:59:08 - 00:29:01:22

It's going to be the most outward and most visible.

00:29:01:22 - 00:29:08:00

It's certainly what everybody's talking about, right now, but it has the potential to build into something so much bigger and deeper.

00:29:08:04 - 00:29:09:03

For Ogden.

00:29:09:03 - 00:29:11:00

It does. Right? Yes.

00:29:11:00 - 00:29:14:08

And so we want to make sure we hit that first step out of the park.

00:29:14:08 - 00:29:17:14

So let's talk about the festival itself.

00:29:17:14 - 00:29:22:07

Because if we're not if we're not succeeding with that in the short term, it's going to be harder to get to

00:29:22:07 - 00:29:28:07

the other steps to, but but it's all part of a bigger vision, right?

00:29:28:09 - 00:29:30:18

And it's all part of building,

00:29:32:02 - 00:29:36:02

more creativity and innovation into the area.

00:29:36:02 - 00:29:37:16

Right.

00:29:37:16 - 00:29:45:10

Have other opportunities, and different opportunities for students as they, as they grow up.

00:29:46:04 - 00:29:50:08

So for the festival itself, let's just

00:29:50:08 - 00:29:52:07

let's just pretend.

00:29:52:07 - 00:29:54:05

I mean, I'm not pretending.

00:29:54:05 - 00:29:57:07

But you. Are pretend you're me.

00:29:57:07 - 00:29:59:22

And you haven't attended the festival yet.

00:29:59:22 - 00:30:06:18

What are what can someone like me expect and see and feel and experience when in a festival like this and in Elgin?

00:30:08:03 - 00:30:10:21

Well, we're still working on the format.

00:30:10:21 - 00:30:16:14

The format will be very, very similar to what we did in London.

00:30:16:14 - 00:30:25:19

So what you're going to experience is, a lot of very advanced technology and some very cool demonstrations and some hands on workshops.

00:30:26:18 - 00:30:31:16

A lot of industry panels that are going to,

00:30:31:16 - 00:30:35:21

touch on everything that's related, entertainment related

00:30:36:20 - 00:30:38:23

immersive technology.

00:30:38:23 - 00:30:44:15

We'll have our Rain Dance Immersive, which is all of our gaming,

00:30:44:15 - 00:30:46:18

you know,

00:30:46:18 - 00:30:52:09

all the other R and R, world building character developments.

00:30:52:09 - 00:30:56:06

The Rain Dance Immersive, I think is going to be huge here.

00:30:56:06 - 00:30:58:19

So we've already started meeting with tech companies.

00:30:58:19 - 00:31:04:01

We have a couple of tech people coming and people coming on board.

00:31:04:01 - 00:31:09:03

So there's going to be a lot of technology showcases to see

00:31:09:03 - 00:31:11:18

a lot of screenings.

00:31:11:18 - 00:31:20:20

You know, one thing we're doing here is we're giving our local Utah filmmakers some, opportunities that are specific to Utah.

00:31:21:12 - 00:31:25:08

So we're going to see, an abundance of our local filmmakers.

00:31:25:08 - 00:31:33:08

We're going to have world premieres that are going to be, here will have the best of our Rain Dance London that will be screening here.

00:31:33:17 - 00:31:38:14

We're making, we're developing partnerships with other film festivals across the world.

00:31:38:14 - 00:31:43:14

So we have, one that we are securing with Mexico. So we're going to have,

00:31:44:20 - 00:31:48:10

some, we're going to do the best of Mexico screenings.

00:31:48:10 - 00:31:51:05

We're going to,

00:31:51:05 - 00:31:55:12

partnering with another film festival in Wichita, Kansas.

00:31:55:12 - 00:31:58:21

We're going to include screenings from from there Festival.

00:31:58:21 - 00:32:04:14

We just you know, it's it's just going to be a lot of fun is going to be a lot of energy out there.

00:32:04:14 - 00:32:08:05

We're going to have an entire student component to it.

00:32:08:05 - 00:32:10:07

So we're going to have student screenings.

00:32:10:07 - 00:32:15:22

We're going to have parties. Right? It's
this it's going to be a lot of fun.

00:32:15:22 - 00:32:20:19

So a lot of energy going on. So if you're if you're following along,
I mean that was a lot.

00:32:20:19 - 00:32:25:06

Each one of those things, we could
we could dissect and talk about specifically,

00:32:25:06 - 00:32:33:04

some of what you and I already have, but if you're not building it
in your vision, think about this is activation of the entire downtown.

00:32:33:23 - 00:32:36:15

It's not just one place. It's not just one,

00:32:37:20 - 00:32:38:05

venue.

00:32:38:05 - 00:32:42:00

It's it's it's going to have a bunch of venues
activating all at the same time around.

00:32:42:00 - 00:32:47:20

Different things, all, all kind of coexisting
and happening all at the same time. And. Right.

00:32:47:20 - 00:32:54:12

So the panels going on over at this place, this place, at this place,
you know, we'll have screenings going on at,

00:32:55:00 - 00:33:00:20

at some of our bigger venues
like Paris Jackson and Copper Nickel honored.

00:33:00:20 - 00:33:06:05

Well,
most of our students, component of it will be done at the line art.

00:33:06:05 - 00:33:09:23

You know, so we're working with those wonderful people over there.

00:33:09:23 - 00:33:13:22

So, so, yeah. So it will be just a lot going on.

00:33:13:22 - 00:33:20:21

You know, we're looking at putting together a tech expo
where we'll have, you know, advanced technology demonstrations,

00:33:21:23 - 00:33:27:07

you know, so, so it'll be just pretty much conceived in 2016.

00:33:27:07 - 00:33:30:20

Yeah. And that's just activates our entire downtown, that kind of thing.

00:33:30:20 - 00:33:33:09

And notice that she mentioned a lot of venues already.

00:33:33:09 - 00:33:37:19

Every one of those venues is a historic venue.
It's a venue that it's got a beautiful facade.

00:33:37:19 - 00:33:41:14

It's got a history and a story and a richness of its own. Right.

00:33:41:14 - 00:33:47:21

And now you're starting to get into another one of our competitive
advantages, which is our historical, charm and, elements of our city

00:33:48:10 - 00:33:53:16

that, really for me is I've been mayor now
a year and a half or a little bit more.

00:33:53:16 - 00:34:00:23

It's starting to solidify for me an economic vision that's built around
that and the sense of placemaking and activating space with events and,

00:34:02:04 - 00:34:02:15

really

00:34:02:15 - 00:34:08:19

leveraging our charm or our history or character right,
to become our best organ are amazing.

00:34:08:19 - 00:34:11:03

Yeah. Amazing. Yeah.

00:34:11:03 - 00:34:13:04

And I'm a big historical person.

00:34:13:04 - 00:34:19:04

So, you know, I still remember
the first time I walked into Union Station, I was it's incredible.

00:34:19:08 - 00:34:19:22

Right.

00:34:19:22 - 00:34:27:07

And went and saw Annie as a very positive person over the summer
and just loved sitting in there and just feeling it.

00:34:27:10 - 00:34:29:08

Yeah. It's beautiful. Right.

00:34:29:08 - 00:34:35:18

Just gorgeous and,
you know, copper, nickel, silver people that love that.

00:34:35:18 - 00:34:39:10

And you love that thing. Well. Right.

00:34:39:10 - 00:34:46:13

Which done by a local artist to recreate what was there
historically, all the rafters and everything restored and exposed.

00:34:46:21 - 00:34:49:15

To the venues here that are. Amazing. Right.

00:34:49:15 - 00:34:53:00

And some it's easy to look at those and see them as maybe a liability

00:34:53:00 - 00:34:56:22

because they're expensive sometimes like to secure those things
structurally and so on. It's really expensive.

00:34:56:22 - 00:34:58:09

And we've had really blessed

00:34:58:09 - 00:35:04:09

to have people that have invested in those and, and the architecture
and the history and the buildings and have found a way to make it work.

00:35:04:15 - 00:35:12:10

And we're working on some ways to try and leverage
our, our tools as an RTA and as a city to help secure more of those,

00:35:12:22 - 00:35:16:10

because I think that's a
that's a huge piece of what we need to be more helpful with.

00:35:18:13 - 00:35:20:18

So we've talked about it.

00:35:20:18 - 00:35:24:16

Give me a second to talk about the Ogden way,
because I want to make this point that

00:35:24:16 - 00:35:29:12

when we talked, it's more than just like, hey, this is a great thing.
Yeah, sure. Come come here.

00:35:29:12 - 00:35:34:08

The reason that resonates with the Ogden way
is because when we talk about the Ogden way, we talk about values.

00:35:34:08 - 00:35:39:00

It's a values around service and collaboration.
It's around having a growth mindset.

00:35:39:00 - 00:35:39:10

Right.

00:35:39:10 - 00:35:40:17

It's about being innovative

00:35:40:17 - 00:35:47:03

and making sure that we're the kind of city that that finds new ways
to drive and to innovate and to become our best selves.

00:35:47:18 - 00:35:50:00

And so,

00:35:50:00 - 00:35:56:10

it's all in a way to to say that we are a city of service
here at the city, and we're out to create a community of opportunity.

00:35:57:10 - 00:36:02:23

And so when we talked to so you're more familiar
now that we had this talk again,

00:36:02:23 - 00:36:06:19

that was my mindset when we talked,
I was listening to you talk about it.

00:36:06:19 - 00:36:09:20

And I was those are the kinds of things I was looking for.

00:36:09:20 - 00:36:15:07

And so, you know, when you came to talk to Ogden and you met Ogden,
you knew what you were looking for,

00:36:15:07 - 00:36:18:23

and now you know what we were looking for, for me. For me anyway.

00:36:18:23 - 00:36:23:07

And that's why I felt like this is, like a good match.

00:36:23:07 - 00:36:29:12

And so I just want to thank you for coming to our city,
experiencing our town buy through our people.

00:36:30:05 - 00:36:31:14

Right? Yes.

00:36:31:14 - 00:36:33:05

And and just giving us a chance.

00:36:33:05 - 00:36:37:17

And I and I want to really push back to, to anybody
that's listening or watching and just say

00:36:38:18 - 00:36:42:01

we have a lot to offer this world

00:36:42:01 - 00:36:47:17

and that I've been saying that we're an international city for a while,
and there have been people that are pushing back on me on that.

00:36:47:17 - 00:36:51:11

And I'm just telling you that Dawn Hauptner???s proof of that.

00:36:51:11 - 00:36:57:11

We have people that reach out to the world, and the world reaches back,
and we have something that people love here.

00:36:57:19 - 00:37:02:23

And it's us, you guys. It's us, the people. That is the person. Right?

00:37:02:23 - 00:37:08:01

So I had four cities left that I had against each other. And I'm like,
all right, let's see this one.

00:37:08:01 - 00:37:11:22

This one's going to be our office, right?

00:37:11:22 - 00:37:12:07

Yeah.

00:37:12:07 - 00:37:16:21

Soon as I walked in front,
you can see this started talking to people like, this is it.

00:37:16:21 - 00:37:18:10

Well, we're we're.

00:37:18:10 - 00:37:20:00

We're happy to have you.

00:37:20:00 - 00:37:24:10

We're really excited to help
do what we can to help you ensure your success here.

00:37:24:10 - 00:37:29:06

Because the mission of our city
is that we're, like I said, we're a city of service.

00:37:29:06 - 00:37:33:15

It is our mission to facilitate success for each other as employees

00:37:35:03 - 00:37:36:18

and then as an employee base.

00:37:36:18 - 00:37:42:18

As we make sure that we facilitate success for each other,
we use our leverage, our resources, our ability

00:37:42:18 - 00:37:45:18

to facilitate success for others. Right? Right.

00:37:45:18 - 00:37:53:03

Well, what we're hoping
also referring to is, and your dogs and is to help bring

00:37:53:23 - 00:37:59:21

and especially with our colleges and as our kids and, you know, start
and they go to school and they go to college

00:37:59:21 - 00:38:07:02

is to come back here and small companies, right,
you know, start up a small business here.

00:38:07:12 - 00:38:11:13

There's this space that's open. There's plenty of space to build.

00:38:11:13 - 00:38:13:07

And, you know, we want to build that.

00:38:13:07 - 00:38:18:11

We want to build.

We want to bring in those, you know, those innovative companies.

00:38:18:11 - 00:38:23:23

We want to bring in those phone companies.

We want it, you know, we want this place to be buzzing all the time.

00:38:23:23 - 00:38:24:23

And and it is.

00:38:24:23 - 00:38:30:02

But, you know,
we just want to be part of that growth in the future about them.

00:38:30:02 - 00:38:34:06

And and as I said, we're not here just to come to a basketball league.

00:38:34:06 - 00:38:36:06

We're here to move in. Right.

00:38:36:06 - 00:38:40:06

But remember when she said we're going to be a part of the growth

and the future of Ogden?

00:38:40:06 - 00:38:45:12

We're talking about the growth and future of us.
You guys, the people we have here are talented.

00:38:45:12 - 00:38:48:16

Or. Capable people. We have more to offer.

00:38:49:15 - 00:38:53:08

I know that we offer a lot, but there's more within us
that we can still offer.

00:38:53:08 - 00:38:58:19

And I guarantee you, there's people watching going,
oh, there's so, you know, pie in the sky.

00:38:58:19 - 00:39:03:00

Or you're right, like, we know we have challenges here.

00:39:03:00 - 00:39:07:22

Of course we know this,
but we focus on the good and we build on the bright spots.

00:39:07:22 - 00:39:09:13

That's what we do here. That's the mindset.

00:39:09:13 - 00:39:12:09

Of about there's. So much good.

00:39:12:09 - 00:39:16:08

Right for us because we're like, there is so much here.

00:39:16:08 - 00:39:18:20

There is because it has to go both ways.

00:39:18:20 - 00:39:19:11

Right?

00:39:19:11 - 00:39:26:07

Just, you know, Rain Dance is this big film festival,
but it has to be both sides have to fit together

00:39:26:18 - 00:39:33:10

and you know, we see about you and Ogden and and to us that's important.

00:39:33:23 - 00:39:41:08

And to us we feel like we're the ones who are on top of the world
because we found the value in Ogden.

00:39:41:08 - 00:39:50:18

And what I think, you know, to us as a film festival and what we can
give back to the city and, and have now we gave to each other.

00:39:50:18 - 00:39:53:16

And now how do we continue that growth?

00:39:53:16 - 00:39:57:17

And that's what we're excited for.
Sure. Sounds a lot like you just described community to me.

00:39:59:06 - 00:39:59:14

Yeah it.

00:39:59:14 - 00:40:05:12

Does. So before I get into my call to action, I got like 3 or 4 of them.
But is there anything we didn't cover that you want to cover?

00:40:05:12 - 00:40:11:06

I want to make sure people know about Rain Dance
and about what we're working on. Before I go on our call to action.

00:40:11:06 - 00:40:14:12

Rain Dance, since we are very excited.

00:40:14:12 - 00:40:16:21

I think you mentioned we had our our first Rain Dance

00:40:16:21 - 00:40:24:20

Ogden meeting with everyone since yesterday,
and our team in London is so excited about this.

00:40:24:20 - 00:40:32:11

And, you know, and it's and all of us are
because this is an opportunity for Rain Dance to expand,

00:40:33:16 - 00:40:41:05

our brand and, and one perfect city to expand our brand with
and with Auburn.

00:40:41:16 - 00:40:43:04

Well, it's the perfect fit.

00:40:43:04 - 00:40:47:13

What better festival to expand our brand of Ogden with than Rain Dance?

00:40:47:13 - 00:40:49:00

It's a perfect, perfect fit.

00:40:49:00 - 00:40:53:19

I'm saying it's just I have so much to give to each other. Yeah.

00:40:53:19 - 00:40:54:16

That's that's. Important.

00:40:54:16 - 00:41:00:16

So we had this meeting yesterday and I had met with the Rain Dance
Advance team, but met with the ownership

00:41:01:07 - 00:41:05:23

with Elliott, met with the kind of the
the senior leadership, the business development group.

00:41:07:12 - 00:41:09:22

Yesterday I met with the whole team and I'll just tell.

00:41:09:22 - 00:41:17:10

I'll just say that you are backed by an enormous and powerful team
of experts, and with a lot of different pieces of expertise.

00:41:17:13 - 00:41:18:09

Right? Yes.

00:41:18:09 - 00:41:25:22

Everybody has their their, expertise in Rain Dance and,
and everybody is very good.

00:41:26:06 - 00:41:29:09

Yeah. I was feel

I was like, man, I should've brought back up more backup.

00:41:29:09 - 00:41:33:17

I had a couple staff members with me and I'm like,
oh, wow, you brought the house.

00:41:33:17 - 00:41:35:18

You know. Impressed.

00:41:35:18 - 00:41:38:18

After I got I got so many emails. Describe what?

00:41:38:18 - 00:41:41:16

Yeah, one was and how terrific the city must be.

00:41:41:16 - 00:41:43:22

And, you know, we're just all really.

00:41:43:22 - 00:41:48:01

Well in that. And that's kind of
the point is it's not our it's not our show at the city.

00:41:48:01 - 00:41:49:03

It's it's your show.

00:41:49:03 - 00:41:53:00

It's our community and it's our shared mission.

00:41:53:00 - 00:41:56:12

But it's your show. It's it's within our city.

00:41:56:12 - 00:41:59:22

We're not here intent on taking it over and running it for you.

That's not the point.

00:41:59:22 - 00:42:03:16

In fact, people have asked if there have been financial incentives,
and the answer is no.

00:42:03:16 - 00:42:05:12

But there's there is no financial incentive.

00:42:05:12 - 00:42:09:16

There's it was just purely incentivized based on you and us, you guys.

00:42:09:16 - 00:42:16:03

Well, and, you know, and we've been asked the same thing
and we said, no, that's we're not here for that reason.

00:42:16:03 - 00:42:24:21

We're here because we saw an opportunity for us to grow as a festival,
and we found the perfect city to grow with.

00:42:25:12 - 00:42:27:15

There you go. That's why we're here. Okay.

00:42:28:23 - 00:42:32:07

Thanks for sharing those final thoughts. The,

00:42:32:07 - 00:42:36:16

thanks for everything you're doing to to discover us
and to to help elevate us.

00:42:36:16 - 00:42:37:20

You're.

00:42:37:20 - 00:42:40:11

I mean, I feel like we've been discovered for a long time.

00:42:40:11 - 00:42:44:13

There are people in Utah that haven't come to see us for a long time.

00:42:44:13 - 00:42:49:09

They say certain things about us. We kind of own it with pride, frankly.

00:42:49:09 - 00:42:51:09

We've. You've noticed we got a chip on our shoulder.

00:42:51:09 - 00:42:56:18

We kind of lean into it, but call ourselves
Still Untamed for a reason. Right? People think one thing.

00:42:56:18 - 00:43:01:16

It's like, well, we're not that. But, you know, we are OG and USA,
we are a little chippy.

00:43:01:16 - 00:43:06:06

We have a quite a bit of grit and charm. Right. That's, that's.

00:43:06:06 - 00:43:08:07

That's our. Culture. Exactly.

00:43:08:07 - 00:43:13:17

That's why when I walk down 23rd Street, I'm looking around
and I'm like this, this is made for.

00:43:13:17 - 00:43:14:23

Right?

00:43:14:23 - 00:43:18:21

Because we can have so much fun here.
And that's why I hit it off so much with Elliott.

00:43:18:21 - 00:43:24:05

And that's why I told them, like, I'm only electable in Ogden

because he hears me talk the way we the way we interact and everything.

00:43:24:05 - 00:43:27:21

It's like he's like, dude, you're different Mero.
And I'm like, I'm mayor of Ogden, man.

00:43:29:06 - 00:43:30:10

We're we're a mix of people.

00:43:30:10 - 00:43:34:20

And so then today, Rick Bright in here, he's like,

00:43:34:20 - 00:43:36:21

he said, well, you know, I really like that mayor.

00:43:36:21 - 00:43:42:19

And I wonder if he took it the wrong way when I said, hey,
would you ever come to London and be the mayor at London?

00:43:42:19 - 00:43:44:17

Yeah. Right.

00:43:44:17 - 00:43:48:12

And I think,
I think he's the now going to say, yeah. I didn't take it the wrong way.

00:43:48:12 - 00:43:52:10

But the answer was absolutely hell no.

00:43:52:10 - 00:43:55:01

I don't actually want to be the mayor of anywhere other than here.

00:43:55:01 - 00:43:56:23

I don't really, frankly, want to be in politics anywhere else.

00:43:56:23 - 00:43:58:17

I just I don't really want to be in politics.

00:43:58:17 - 00:44:03:08

I want to be in I want to be in leadership and
and building and doing and creating and lifting.

00:44:03:08 - 00:44:09:15

And so that kind of was the point of my call to action
today is if you ever find yourself in a position

00:44:09:15 - 00:44:13:01

where you're focused on negativity,
there's plenty of negativity in the world.

00:44:13:01 - 00:44:20:11

There's plenty of ways to open the newspaper, look at the news,
see a headline, because the the world in some ways is built to funnel

00:44:20:18 - 00:44:22:07

negative energy.

00:44:22:07 - 00:44:25:09

Right. That's for whatever reason. That's what makes news.

00:44:25:09 - 00:44:30:19

It's, it's it's being monetized,
you know, and it's and it's seeps into our own city.

00:44:30:19 - 00:44:34:00

It feeds into our own lives. You guys, I've fallen for it before.

00:44:34:00 - 00:44:38:13

I've had people in my in my own office in the past,
in my history of career,

00:44:38:13 - 00:44:44:13

where you bring in a new person and they bring a different energy
and you end up kind of succumbing to it if you're not careful.

00:44:44:21 - 00:44:50:00

But the same can be done to where you have a positive energy
and that negative can succumb to yours. Right there.

00:44:50:00 - 00:44:53:17

All those are very equal and opposite energy forces.

00:44:53:17 - 00:44:59:06

You know what I mean? Well, and that's the thing with Rain Dance is we have the same type of mindset.

00:44:59:06 - 00:45:03:01

We're not a political group. We don't go one way or the other way.

00:45:03:01 - 00:45:05:00

We're for everybody. Right.

00:45:05:00 - 00:45:14:07

And that's one thing that's really important to us at Bring Dance is, you know, the arts and creativity that goes across our borders.

00:45:15:03 - 00:45:18:14

Yep. Where you are on the political spectrum,

00:45:18:14 - 00:45:25:17

we're here to bring something really fun for people to come out and express themselves and, and just have a good time.

00:45:25:22 - 00:45:29:14

Which also was something, you know, I talked about because we we talked about a lot. Yeah. It's,

00:45:31:11 - 00:45:33:06

it is to make sure everything that.

00:45:33:06 - 00:45:36:19

Yeah, we had to make sure we were aligned and it's like and it wasn't about asking for political limits.

00:45:36:19 - 00:45:40:18

I said, are you going to come drive political wedges in our city, or are you going to just come help build people?

00:45:40:18 - 00:45:45:18

Yeah, that was it. And it's like, no, we're not taking one side or the other. We're just here to help.

00:45:45:18 - 00:45:51:12

And that's the thing with with film, you know, film is used to express yourself.

00:45:51:12 - 00:46:00:05

And, and we encourage people to express themselves, you know, and, and again, that goes over across our borders.

00:46:00:05 - 00:46:05:21

It doesn't matter.

That's human right to be able to take your creativity.

00:46:05:21 - 00:46:11:06

And and that's what's so great about film. Right.

00:46:11:06 - 00:46:14:07

Well, we're

we're really thankful to have you. We're blessed to have you,

00:46:15:10 - 00:46:16:09

for our call to action.

00:46:16:09 - 00:46:17:03

Be more like gone.

00:46:17:03 - 00:46:19:12

Be more like Rain Dance. Be more like Ogden.

00:46:19:12 - 00:46:23:16

Look for the. Good. Yes, be the good. Be attracted to the good.

00:46:23:16 - 00:46:25:13

Like. Carry the energy of goodness.

00:46:25:13 - 00:46:31:13

And I promise you,
we will continue to be far, far, far more than we could ever imagine.

00:46:31:16 - 00:46:37:17

If we focus on the negative, if we want to divide people,
if we want to create false narratives and false talking points

00:46:37:17 - 00:46:46:13

in order to to to win over the so that someone else loses,
that's that's an inherent limiting bias, a limited mindset.

00:46:46:19 - 00:46:49:14

We're here to have an abundance mindset.

00:46:49:14 - 00:46:54:01

To. Help people thrive and help people grow,
including Pitmaster Steve Wright.

00:46:54:01 - 00:46:56:06

And that's your other call to action.

00:46:56:06 - 00:46:59:23

Yeah. And it's a random call to action, but it's not random at all.

00:46:59:23 - 00:47:05:23

Is connected Pitmaster Steve at Black Sabbath Barbecue over here
at by the by the River just off of Washington Boulevard.

00:47:06:03 - 00:47:06:18

Oh, okay.

00:47:07:17 - 00:47:08:19

Is absolutely.

00:47:08:19 - 00:47:12:11

The food's phenomenal. The the atmosphere is phenomenal.

00:47:12:11 - 00:47:15:13

They're bursting at the seams already.

00:47:15:13 - 00:47:18:11

Big enough for us to do a preview Monday.

00:47:18:11 - 00:47:22:06

I don't know. I'll let you be the judge of that.

00:47:22:06 - 00:47:25:09

But, Steve, Steve's an awesome guy.

00:47:25:09 - 00:47:27:15

He's from Corpus Christi, Texas.

00:47:27:15 - 00:47:31:05

Originally growing up. He's been in Utah for a long time, and,

00:47:31:05 - 00:47:36:12

loves everything that organ stands for
and is absolutely loving doing business in Ogden.

00:47:36:12 - 00:47:36:23

Well, good.

00:47:36:23 - 00:47:39:01

And and we're looking forward to the same thing.

00:47:39:01 - 00:47:45:01

And I guess before we
we end, we are going to be starting our year round programing in 2026.

00:47:45:10 - 00:47:52:11

So 2026 is when we're going to be starting our events
and our workshops for kids studying four years old

00:47:53:04 - 00:47:58:16

for the ten year old, workshops and events for our sixth grade
through 12th grade workshops and events.

00:47:58:16 - 00:48:02:13

And then we'll have our college and adult and all that starts next year.

00:48:02:13 - 00:48:03:13

It'll be here before you know it.

00:48:03:13 - 00:48:07:14

For those of us tracking,
that's right after the deer hunt, after Thanksgiving, after Christmas,

00:48:07:14 - 00:48:11:14

and then we'll be right into the year
round, programing. Right next summer.

00:48:11:14 - 00:48:15:10

And then and then in the following year,
we'll be looking at our festival elements.

00:48:15:10 - 00:48:18:17

And then now you're starting to talk about an entire package, right.

00:48:18:17 - 00:48:19:21

And then we'll just have a thing.

00:48:19:21 - 00:48:24:18

We'll just keep growing and growing and growing
and and lots going to have a good time okay.

00:48:24:18 - 00:48:28:13

Dawn Hauptner with Rain Dance Film Festival,
thanks for joining us here on the Ultimate Podcast.

00:48:29:12 - 00:48:30:21

I'm proud to be an organizer.

00:48:30:21 - 00:48:34:03

There you go. We're proud to have you. And,

00:48:34:03 - 00:48:40:22

thank you for everybody who tuned in, who listened,
or who watched the episode, who want to learn more about Rain Dance.

00:48:40:22 - 00:48:44:08

Is there somewhere that we can direct them
if they want to learn even more?

00:48:44:08 - 00:48:47:03

You go to Raindance.org

00:48:47:03 - 00:48:52:06

We, we will be, adding the US,

00:48:52:06 - 00:48:58:06

Rain Dance, but right now, it at least gives information
about Rain Dance and what Rain Dance is all about.

00:48:58:11 - 00:49:01:18

We also have the British Independent Film Awards.

00:49:01:18 - 00:49:05:09

Which is that for that film? Yes.

00:49:05:09 - 00:49:10:14

I think that you're planning on going. I'm going to try.
We'll see. Yeah.

00:49:10:14 - 00:49:16:18

And I'll be there and, so that we have some other is,
the British Independent Film Awards were also created.

00:49:16:19 - 00:49:20:15

I always wrote, so that's been running 28 years.

00:49:20:15 - 00:49:26:15

So that kind of gives a little bit more feel for Rain Dance
and just things that we're doing.

00:49:26:18 - 00:49:32:22

There's, a Rain Dance immersive,

which is why was it that, that's kind of this,

00:49:34:07 - 00:49:38:04
a look at, the immersive technology?

00:49:38:04 - 00:49:39:20
So. Awesome.

00:49:39:20 - 00:49:44:00
Okay, okay, go to those sources, look at Rain Dance and,

00:49:44:00 - 00:49:46:05
you know, live up to the ideals and the standards of the other way.

00:49:46:05 - 00:49:52:19
And continue to be you, because everything that you are doing
is everything that we can become and we are becoming.

00:49:52:22 - 00:49:55:03
And today's episode was absolute proof of that.

00:49:55:03 - 00:50:00:23
And when this episode airs, please make sure you share link
with Elliott in the team and thank them again for squeezing us in.

00:50:00:23 - 00:50:03:16
And before their meeting with Hugh Grant.

00:50:03:16 - 00:50:04:07
That was funny.

00:50:04:07 - 00:50:10:08
I know, I know, it's like it's like it's like, sorry, we gotta
we gotta meet with the mayor first and then we'll get to that. So.

00:50:12:01 - 00:50:14:18
Okay, that is, this episode of The Ogden Way.

00:50:14:18 - 00:50:17:03
Ogden City Mayor, Ben Nadolski. We're with,

00:50:18:03 - 00:50:20:06
Dawn Hauptner from the Rain Dance film Festival.

00:50:20:06 - 00:50:26:05
And this has been, phenomenal discussion. And
and we'll look forward to see you in the next one. Yeah.

00:50:26:05 - 00:50:30:16
And in the meantime,
get out there. Be you be your best. Let's just be together.