



This summer, production has kicked-off for a documentary film project titled *humble schist* focused on showcasing the work of CRAG-VT as an example of responsible land stewardship and fostering a connected and inclusive climbing community throughout the Green Mountain State.

The partnership at the helm of the project is made up of Saraphina Redalieu, Bailey Beltramo, and Kayli Ennis. Saraphina grew up in Essex, VT, has climbed often in the Gunks, Catskills, and northern parts of Vermont, and is now a freelance editor in Colorado after working at Sender Films as their post-production coordinator. Bailey is a New Hampshire native and has pursued photo and video production in the outdoor industry for the past five years. He recently relocated to Burlington to take a job at UVM as a content producer. Kayli is also a NH native, recent VT transplant, longtime outdoor recreator, and currently works as a post producer for The Mill – a production house based in Los Angeles. Together, they’ve merged their combined industry experience, love for the outdoors and climbing, and love for storytelling to bring this film to life. The trio is supported in their production by Zach Ennis, an Earth and oceanographic science major at Bowdoin College, and Evan Chochran, a film student at Endicott University.

The seed of the project was planted a year ago when Saraphina reached out to Bailey about the possibility of creating a documentary film about Bolton Dome.

Saraphina had kept close tabs on the climbing scene and Bolton Dome acquisition near her hometown since moving out west after college. Excited by the work being done, she felt it was a story worth sharing with a larger audience. A friend-of-a-friend connection (as is common in New England) put Saraphina and Bailey in touch with Travis Peckham and the rest of the CRAG-VT board. As Saraphina and Bailey delved into researching the Bolton Dome project and hearing stories and perspective from those that helped make it happen, the significance of CRAG’s efforts to preserve climbing areas and bolster the climbing community really began to sink in.

They began to hear a common refrain that went along the lines of: “Yeah, I moved away for a bit, but I ended up coming back to Vermont.” Or sometimes a modified version: “I moved up here to Vermont and have never left.” When asked why, consistent answers accompanied those consistent statements. The people. The community. The environment. It became apparent quickly that the story to be told was about more than Bolton Dome. The story was really about the community – more specifically the hard work being done by the climbing community to be active land stewards to preserve the sport of climbing in the state for years to come.

Kayli joined the team in the winter and offered her wealth of production knowledge to help get the project off the ground. The trio worked through the winter to do more research and prep for the summer season of climbing when they would begin production. Starting with Green-up Day in May, cameras started rolling. The team’s goal is to shoot through the summer months and document the elements of the Vermont climbing community that make it unique and a place for people to come home to. After wrapping production in early fall, the film will move into the editing stage for the winter months. A final product is planned to be ready for festival submissions and screenings across the country next summer.

Through the film, it’s the hope of the *humble schist* team to spread the following messages: small voices, together, can lead to large change; good land stewardship requires constant community participation; and most importantly, there is a difference between being a good climber (a climber who sends



hard), and being a climber who is good (a climber who cares for the rock they climb on and the community they climb with, regardless of their ability).

If you are interested in supporting the film financially, have a VT climbing story or experience to share, or just want to drop a line, the team would love to hear from you. Please reach out to saraphina.redalieu@gmail.com.

