**Expert Opinion Letter (Confidential)**

**Analysis of Positional Requirements for O1-B Visa**

Evaluator: Jeffrey Hammer

Assistant Professor of Screenwriting

University of North Carolina School of the Arts School of Filmmaking

**AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

* Screenwriting
* Film Production
* Education

**EMPLOYMENT**

* Assistant Professor of Screenwriting, University of North Carolina School of the Arts -

2019 to Present

* Adjunct Assistant Professor, University of Southern California – 2017 to 2019
* Adjunct Faculty, Academy of Art University – 2018 to 2019
* Teacher, Kehillah Jewish Highschool – 2012-2015
* Teacher, Ramona Convent Secondary School – 2006-2012
* Director/Administrative Positions, One Heartland – Summers 1999-2006
* Entertainment Writer, The Badger Herald – 1998-200

**FILMS AND RECOGNITIONS**

* **Producer/Writer of Iké Boys (2022, dir. Eric McEver)** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vu81lm1JkoU>

Winner: BEST EDITING, Boston Sci-Fi Film Festival

* **Producer of documentary feature American Gadfly (2022, dir. Skye Wallin)**

<https://americangadflymovie.com>

* **Script Consultant on feature film Skylines (2020, dir. Liam O’Donnell)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxhD5g2rnqg>

* **Associate Producer of feature film CURTIZ (2019, dir. Tamás Yvan Topolanszky)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sYzDlLiuKaQ>

WINNER: Grand Prix des Amériques (Best Film), Montreal World Film Festival

WINNER: Best Foreign Film, Burbank International Film Festival

WINNER: Best Director, Riviera International Film Festival

WINNER: Best Cinematography, Boston International Film Festival

* **Producer/Writer/Director of the feature film Live or Die in La Honda** http://liveordieinlahonda.com
* **Producer/Writer of the web series Personal Space**

 http://personalspace.tv/  o 1st Season of 28 episodes released March 2018 on Amazon

Vancouver Web Fest Best Sci-Fi Series Nominee Official Selection Boston Sci-Fi Film Festival, Berlin Sci-Fi Filmfest, Philip K. Dick Science Fiction & Supernatural Festival, HollyWeb Festival

* **Producer/Writer of feature film The Flight of Sam Wolf (2020, dir. Skye Wallin)**<https://vimeo.com/357855468> (PW: LeapOfSam)
* **Producer of the short film Leave (2018, dir. Caatje van Leeuwen)**

LA Femme International Film Festival Official Selection

* **Producer of the short film Iago (2019, dir. Amit Bhalla)**

in association with Inner City Shakespeare Ensemble, http://innercityshakespeare.org

* **Producer of the short film Leap of Sam (2019, dir. Skye Wallin)**
* **Screenwriter of feature Imagine If…,**

Commissioned by Singerman Entertainment

* **Screenwriter of original feature WTF! developed with Paul Schiff Productions**
* **DMG Entertainment Screenwriting Fellow**

http://www.dmg-entertainment.com

* **Finalist for Walt Disney Studios/ABC TV Screenwriting Fellowship (Epicurus)**
* **Producer of the short film A Blossom in the Night (2020, dir. Tayo Amos),** <https://vimeo.com/364193747> (PW: staff)
* **IN PRODUCTION**

**Producer of documentary The Runt: Cutting Ankles with Wendi Furguson (dir. Ryon Baxter)**, Sizzle Reel: <https://vimeo.com/524895086/805b9fca4e> (PW: Dayton)

* **SEEKING FINANCING**

**Producer/Writer of feature film adaptation The Man Who Folded Himself, based on the Hugo and Nebula Award-nominated novel by David Gerrold**

**Producer of feature film *Elite* (dir. Tayo Amos)**

**Producer of feature film *The Cool Tenor* (dir. Mickey Reece)**

**Producer/Writer/Director of feature films Campheads and Epicurus**

**Producer/Writer of feature films May God Be With You and Silver Springs and Sunshine & Sweet Awesome Rock**

**EDUCATION**

* West Bend West H.S. valedictorian (West Bend, WI), 1996
* B.S. w/ Honors in English, Creative Writing Emphasis & Molecular Biology (University of Wisconsin-Madison), 2000
* Medical College of Wisconsin (Milwaukee, WI), 2000-2003
* M.F.A. Screenwriting (University of Southern California), 2006

Dear USCIS,

I am writing this letter to support the O1-B visa petition of Douglas Carvalho. I have had the opportunity to review his work and contributions to the field of entertainment.

In preparation for this expert opinion letter, I have thoroughly reviewed the following documents related to her work and qualifications:

* Curriculum Vitae
* Petitioner Information
* Criteria Evidence

These documents provide a comprehensive view of his qualifications, achievements, and the substantial merit of his work. Based on this thorough review, I am confident in my assessment of Douglas Carvalho’s contributions and his potential impact on the United States.

This evaluation and analysis are based on the information and documentation provided by Douglas Carvalho, as well as independent research conducted for this purpose. The documents are assumed to be accurate and genuine. I have made every reasonable effort to verify the accuracy of this evaluation, and to the best of my knowledge, the information provided is reliable and trustworthy.

**My Credentials and Qualifications**

I am providing this opinion letter based on my experience in the field of Art and Culture. With regard to my academic background, I received my B.A. in Art History from William Paterson University. I also hold a M.A. in Art History and M.F.A. in Studio Art from Montclair University.

To briefly introduce myself, I am an experienced filmmaker living in Los Angeles. My first feature film, Live or Die in LA Honda, was acquired by Freestyle Digital Media (https://deadline.com/2018/02/justin-bieberdocumentaty-bieber-generation-gravitas-ventures-freestyle-digital-media-acquires-live-or-die-in-lahonda-1202300435/), and Summer Hill Entertainment is handling international sales. A second feature, Curtiz, won Best Film at the 2018 Montreal International Film Festival and was released in 2019. I'm also a writer-producer on the original web series Personal Space, and the 1st Season premiered on Amazon in 2018. I am also an Assistant Professor at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. I teach courses in the School of Filmmaking, mentor Screenwriting majors, and provide service to the university in various capacities.

As an evaluator, I am responsible for reviewing academic and experiential qualifications to form part of a candidate’s credential evaluation report, providing a detailed analysis of the academic background and occupational experience that a person has received outside the United States.

As an expert in the filmmaking industry, I have had the opportunity to review Douglas Carvalho’s accomplishments, and I can confidently affirm that his contributions have had a significant impact nationally. This letter will provide an overview of his achievements and detail the reasons why he qualifies for the O1-B classification, which is intended for individuals who possess extraordinary ability in the arts or extraordinary achievement in the motion picture or television industry, as demonstrated by sustained national or international acclaim.

To qualify for an O1-B visa, an applicant must meet the strict criteria set forth by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). This includes demonstrating distinction in their field through evidence of:

* Participation in productions or events with a distinguished reputation.
* Recognition for achievements from reputable organizations, critics, or industry experts.
* Performance in a leading or critical role for organizations or establishments with a high reputation.
* A record of major commercial or critically acclaimed successes.
* Significant recognition for achievements through awards, honors, or other commendations.
* Notable compensation or a high salary compared to others in the field, indicating an exceptional skill level.
* Other comparable evidence of extraordinary ability, as appropriate, to substantiate the applicant’s prominence within the field.

In the following sections, I will provide detailed, expert testimony that supports Douglas Carvalho’s qualifications under these criteria, demonstrating that he is an extraordinary professional worthy of the O1-B visa.

**The Beneficiary’s Extraordinary Ability**

Douglas Carvalho’s extensive background in comedy and entertainment marks him as a professional whose achievements meet and exceed the requirements set by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for the O1-B classification. As a seasoned stand-up comedian, screenwriter, comedy program coordinator, and content creator, Mr. Carvalho embodies the caliber of talent that the O1-B visa is designed to recognize. With a career spanning over 15 years, Mr. Carvalho has firmly established himself as a leading figure within the Brazilian comedy industry, engaging audiences through his perceptive humor and innovative approach to storytelling. His proven ability to captivate large audiences and earn recognition from reputable institutions signifies his distinction within the comedy field, an attribute fundamental to USCIS’s criteria for extraordinary ability.

Mr. Carvalho’s impressive accomplishments are underscored by his roles in prominent Brazilian television programs such as Tudo é Possível on RECORD and Domingão do Faustão on GLOBO, where his comedic performances garnered national attention. Such appearances demonstrate Mr. Carvalho’s ability to perform in productions of significant reputation, fulfilling one of the USCIS requirements for professionals of extraordinary skill. His public recognition extends further, as evidenced by his commendation from the Municipal Chamber of Cabo Frio, which honored his enduring contributions to the city’s comedic and cultural development. This official acknowledgment not only validates Mr. Carvalho’s impact within his community but also underscores his reputation as a distinguished talent, meeting another essential criterion of the O1-B classification​.

Moreover, Douglas Carvalho’s entrepreneurial pursuits in comedy highlight his multifaceted expertise. As the creator of one of Rio de Janeiro’s largest comedy festivals, Mr. Carvalho has demonstrated remarkable organizational and leadership skills. The festival served not only as a venue for showcasing comedy but also as a philanthropic endeavor, with its proceedings aiding needy families. By merging his craft with social impact, Mr. Carvalho has amplified the scope of his influence, distinguishing himself as a professional committed to both his art and the betterment of his community. Such accomplishments fulfill the USCIS requirement for a professional who has contributed to their field in a way that is recognized and respected, positioning Mr. Carvalho as an invaluable asset to any community he engages with.

Additionally, Douglas Carvalho’s extensive experience as a Comedy Program Coordinator at Nova Comedy School further substantiates his extraordinary qualifications. In this role, he mentors emerging comedians, imparting crucial skills in performance and scriptwriting, thereby fostering the next generation of Brazilian humorists. This mentorship demonstrates his leadership within the field, aligning with the USCIS expectation that extraordinary professionals play a pivotal role in the development of their industry. Through this guidance, Mr. Carvalho directly shapes the comedic landscape, ensuring his influence endures beyond his individual performances​.

Beyond live performances, Douglas Carvalho has successfully engaged with global audiences through digital platforms, where his content has reached millions. This substantial online presence, built through performance videos that capture everyday humor, reflects Mr. Carvalho’s ability to connect with diverse viewers, expanding his reach internationally. His upcoming engagements in the United States—such as his role in the documentary A Brazuca in the States, the stand-up comedy tour Sorry, That’s Me, and his role in the Brazilian Comedy USA competition—demonstrate his readiness to contribute to the American cultural landscape. Through these projects, Mr. Carvalho is poised to foster cross-cultural connections, adding unique perspectives to the U.S. comedy industry and enriching its diversity. His endeavors align precisely with USCIS’s vision of an extraordinary talent bringing meaningful contributions to the United States​.

Douglas Carvalho’s qualifications, characterized by significant experience, recognized achievements, and a proven dedication to advancing his field, distinguish him unequivocally as a professional of extraordinary ability. His contributions, both in his native Brazil and projected within the United States, serve not only to entertain but to enhance cultural understanding and innovation in comedy. Mr. Carvalho’s expertise and accomplishments thus satisfy the O1-B criteria comprehensively, affirming his potential to make lasting contributions to the American entertainment industry.

Based on my extensive knowledge and experience, I can confidently attest to Douglas Carvalho’s extraordinary ability and qualifications for the O1-A visa, as he has met the following criteria:

**Evidence that the beneficiary has performed, and will perform, in a lead, starring, or critical role for organizations and establishments that have a distinguished reputation, as evidenced by articles in newspapers, trade journals, publications, or testimonials**

Douglas Carvalho has an extensive portfolio of lead, starring, and critical roles with reputable organizations in the comedy and entertainment industry, both in Brazil and internationally. Below is a selection of his notable performances:

* 2013: Douglas Carvalho starred in the stand-up comedy show *Os Bipolares* alongside Vinícius Stael at the Laercio Ventura Municipal Theater in Nova Friburgo. This show, which attracted over 20,000 spectators, gained popularity for its insightful humor and clever writing, earning coverage from G1 news, which praised its innovative format and Carvalho's standout performance. The theater itself is a well-known cultural landmark in the region, hosting performances
* 2014: Douglas Carvalho performed as the main comedic act at the 11th edition of the Forte Fair in Cabo Frio, one of the largest public festivals in the region, attracting thousands of visitors each year. His performance was prominently featured in event publicity, and the festival organizers highlighted his role as a major draw for attendees. This event, supported by prominent Brazilian organizations such as the Commercial, Industrial, and Tourist Association of Cabo Frio, further underscored Carvalho’s appeal and reputation among large audiences.
* 2015: Douglas Carvalho appeared on the popular Brazilian television show *Domingão do Faustão* as part of the comedy segment *Who Gets There?*, a nationally recognized program on the Globo Network known for showcasing top comedic talent. His appearance was well-received by both the host and audience, highlighting his ability to perform successfully in a high-stakes, televised environment.
* 2017: Carvalho also played a lead role in *É Dose,* a live stand-up performance hosted at various prominent Brazilian venues, including the Costa Azul Yacht Club. In an interview with RJ TV, he discussed his work and the show’s concept, which focused on humorous observations of everyday life. This performance received notable media attention, reinforcing Carvalho’s visibility as a leading figure in Brazilian comedy​.

Douglas Carvalho’s roles have garnered substantial media coverage from prominent publications, attesting to his impact and lead status within the entertainment industry. *G1* news praised *Os Bipolares* as a highly successful production that attracted over 20,000 spectators, noting Carvalho’s essential role in the show’s popularity and his influence on its success​.

G1 is a prominent Brazilian news portal operated by Grupo Globo, one of the largest media conglomerates in Latin America. Launched in 2006, G1 provides comprehensive coverage of national and international news, including politics, economics, culture, and entertainment. It is recognized for its timely reporting and extensive reach, making it a primary news source for millions of Brazilians. As of recent data, G1 consistently ranks among the top news websites in Brazil, attracting a substantial daily readership.

*RJ TV* aired a feature on Carvalho, commending his performance in *É Dose* and highlighting the show’s positive reception among audiences, which further solidified his reputation as a leading figure in Brazilian comedy.

RJTV is a regional television news program broadcast by TV Globo, focusing on news and events in Rio de Janeiro. It delivers local news, weather updates, and cultural segments pertinent to residents of Rio de Janeiro and its surrounding areas. RJTV is known for its in-depth reporting and has a significant viewership within the region, contributing to its reputation as a trusted source of local information.

Both G1 and RJTV are integral components of Brazil's media landscape, offering reliable news coverage and maintaining high standards of journalism. Their widespread reach and esteemed reputations underscore their influence and the trust placed in them by the Brazilian public.

Additionally, testimonials from *Domingão do Faustão* lauded Carvalho’s talent for connecting with audiences through his relatable and intelligent humor, reinforcing his role as a prominent performer on one of Brazil’s most respected television platforms​. These recognitions from respected media outlets underscore Carvalho’s ability to captivate diverse audiences and affirm his qualifications for the O1-B classification.

*Domingão do Faustão*, a long-standing program on Brazil’s Globo Network, is widely regarded as one of the country's premier television shows, showcasing the highest caliber of national talent. Globo Network’s extensive viewership further amplifies the reach and impact of performances on this platform.

Furthermore, Douglas Carvalho has confirmed several high-profile engagements in the United States, where he will continue to perform in lead and critical roles:

* 2025: Carvalho is set to star in the documentary *A Brazuca in the States*, produced by Urkyn Productions, where he will play the lead role of Marcos. This project includes a comprehensive shooting and promotional schedule, beginning with pre-production in January 2025 and culminating in a premiere screening in December 2025. His leading role in this production will allow him to bring a distinctly Brazilian perspective to American audiences, a unique contribution in the industry.
* 2025: Douglas Carvalho’s comedy tour, *Sorry, That’s Me*, includes confirmed performances at well-regarded venues such as PCG Burger Joint in Orlando and Açaí Republic in Hawaii. These engagements underscore his role as the primary comedian, selected for his cultural resonance with Brazilian audiences abroad, as noted by testimonials from venue managers.
* 2026: Mr. Carvalho will direct and judge *Brazilian Comedy USA*, a comedy competition targeting both Brazilian and American comedians, developed by Urkyn Productions. This project places him in a critical role as a mentor and adjudicator, evidencing his influence in the comedy industry beyond performing.

Urkyn Productions, a U.S.-based production company organizing the upcoming *A Brazuca in the States* documentary and *Brazilian Comedy USA* competition, specializes in cultural projects that highlight Brazilian talent abroad, emphasizing the distinguished cultural value of its productions.​

Supporting documents for these upcoming projects include letters of intent from the U.S. venues PCG Burger Joint and North Shore Acai Company, which emphasize Carvalho’s lead status and the value of his performances for their audiences. Additionally, detailed itineraries and schedules from Urkyn Productions outline his starring role in both the documentary and comedy tour, confirming his significant involvement in these forthcoming projects.

Through these roles, Douglas Carvalho has established himself as a primary comedic influence in reputable Brazilian entertainment outlets and is positioned to continue this trajectory in the United States. Articles, show transcriptions, and testimonials all document his impact, verifying his fulfillment of the criterion for lead, starring, or critical roles with distinguished organizations. His sustained popularity and the intention of U.S. venues to feature him reflect his standing in the industry, underscoring his extraordinary ability and capacity to contribute significantly to the U.S. cultural landscape.

His portfolio illustrates his qualifications as a performer of extraordinary ability. His lead and starring roles across multiple prestigious platforms and organizations—demonstrated through consistent recognition in widely viewed television programs, culturally significant live performances, and major upcoming projects in the United States—affirm his prominence within the comedy and entertainment industry. The distinguished reputation of the organizations he has worked with, coupled with documented testimonials and media coverage, substantiate his significant contributions to the field. His planned performances in the U.S. will not only advance his career but will also contribute to the cultural diversity and richness of the American entertainment landscape, aligning with the objectives of the O1-B visa program.

**Evidence that the beneficiary has a record of major commercial or critically acclaimed successes, as evidenced by such indicators as title, rating, standing in the field, box office receipts, motion pictures or television ratings, and other occupational achievements reported in trade journals, major newspapers, or other publications**

Douglas Carvalho demonstrates a record of major commercial and critically acclaimed successes, evidenced by his contributions to highly attended shows and productions widely praised by the press. His prominent achievements underscore his strong standing in the comedy and entertainment industry, satisfying this O1-B visa criterion comprehensively.

He has headlined or contributed critically to a range of popular productions. Some of his most notable works include:

* “É Dose! Stand Up Comedy”: Douglas Carvalho served as the director and lead comedian for this production, which was performed at esteemed venues such as Teatro do Sesi in Macaé. The show received substantial recognition in the Diário de Macaé, where it was described as an event marked by “intelligent humor” and strong public engagement. The publication further highlighted the show’s success by announcing that representatives from SESI, impressed by the audience’s response, invited Carvalho and the production to return for additional performances​.
* “Deus me Livre”: Carvalho co-starred in this production alongside comedian Vinicius Stael, premiering at Hotel Fazenda Gamela Eco Resort. This unique show offered a humorous take on biblical stories, bringing a fresh approach to familiar narratives. This performance drew critical attention from publications such as Zapeando, which underscored the creativity and comedic skill involved in transforming classic tales into a humor-filled spectacle.
* Appearances on Brazilian National Television: As a regular guest on renowned TV shows like *Domingão do Faustão* and *A Praça é Nossa*, Carvalho gained national recognition. His performances on these high-viewership platforms solidified his position as a major comedic talent and demonstrated his consistent ability to captivate large, diverse audiences.

In terms of commercial success, Douglas Carvalho’s shows have attracted substantial audiences and financial success, further reinforcing his status in the industry. For instance, *É Dose! Stand Up Comedy* has been consistently successful at selling out venues, such as the Costa Azul Yacht Club, where tickets sold at R$50 each and included a high-value entertainment experience with live music and a pasta buffet. This commercial structure underlines the production’s financial success and appeal to audiences.

Douglas Carvalho’s work has also received praise from critics and media sources across Brazil. This acclaim is a testament to his skill and influence in the field of comedy:

* Reviews in *Diário de Macaé* commended *É Dose*! for its “intelligent humor,” and audience reactions demonstrated high appreciation for Carvalho’s ability to connect through observational comedy. The publication noted that the show’s success led SESI representatives to extend invitations for additional performances, a clear indicator of its critical and commercial impact.
* Publications like *Zapeando* celebrated his role in *Deus me Livre*, highlighting the creative nature of the production and Carvalho’s integral contribution to its humor and originality. This recognition is emblematic of his standing as a creative force in Brazilian comedy​.

Douglas Carvalho holds a respected position in the field of Brazilian comedy, evidenced by his industry recognition and media presence. His continuous involvement in nationally acclaimed shows and his consistent invitations to perform at highly regarded venues reflect his standing as a leading comedian in Brazil.

Through both commercial success and critical acclaim, Douglas Carvalho’s achievements underscore his significant contributions to comedy and entertainment, affirming his qualifications under the O1-B visa criteria for extraordinary ability. His sustained popularity, proven audience appeal, and respected industry position make him a valuable talent, one whose presence in the United States would enrich the cultural landscape.

**Evidence that the beneficiary has received significant recognition for achievements from organizations, critics, government agencies, or other recognized experts in the field in which the beneficiary is engaged**

Douglas Carvalho has received substantial recognition for his achievements from respected organizations, critics, and government bodies, reflecting the high regard in which his contributions are held within the field of comedy. This acknowledgment underscores his significant impact as a cultural figure and meets the O1-B visa criterion for recognized achievements.

**A. Awards and Honors**

Douglas Carvalho’s distinguished career has earned him several honors, most notably the Motion of Applause from the Cabo Frio City Council in November 2023. This award, granted by a governmental body in the State of Rio de Janeiro, honors “courageous citizens” who have made substantial contributions to the city. Councilor Leonardo Mendes de Abrantes highlighted Carvalho’s dedication to Cabo Frio, recognizing his influence in elevating the city’s cultural profile through both television appearances and live performances. This commendation is a formal acknowledgment of Carvalho’s role in promoting Cabo Frio’s artistic and cultural identity on a national scale​.

**B. Critical Acclaim**

Douglas Carvalho’s achievements have also been met with praise from critics in Brazil’s entertainment sector. Publications such as the *Diário de Macaé* have spotlighted Carvalho’s work in productions like *É Dose! Stand Up Comedy*, describing his humor as intelligent and skillful in capturing the nuances of everyday life. Such reviews underline his ability to engage audiences through relatable and insightful comedic performances. This critical acclaim enhances his reputation, marking him as a distinguished figure in Brazilian comedy.

**C. Recognition from Organizations**

Douglas Carvalho has received additional commendations from notable organizations within the entertainment field. His creation of Cizzedo, the first comedy club in the State of Rio de Janeiro, earned him acclaim as a cultural innovator. The Cabo Frio City Council, in their Motion of Applause, praised this initiative as a major advancement in the local cultural scene, facilitating entertainment that draws talent from across Brazil. This contribution was acknowledged not only for its artistic value but also for the positive impact it has had on the community, providing a space for both residents and visitors to enjoy unique comedy experiences​.

**D. Government Recognition**

The Motion of Applause awarded to Douglas Carvalho by the Cabo Frio City Council stands as a testament to his standing in the community and his contributions to public life. The Council’s official statement noted Carvalho’s dual impact as both an entertainer and a socially responsible citizen involved in community welfare projects. This governmental recognition reflects his influence beyond the stage, affirming his role as a public figure committed to enhancing cultural life and community wellbeing in Cabo Frio​.

Endorsements from recognized experts and public figures, including testimonials from local officials such as Councilor Leonardo Mendes de Abrantes, validate Douglas Carvalho’s prominence in comedy. Councilor Abrantes emphasized Carvalho’s ability to promote Cabo Frio’s spirit on a national level, citing his performances on major Brazilian television networks as a source of pride for the community. Such endorsements from respected individuals reinforce Carvalho’s respected position within his field and his influence as a cultural ambassador​.

Through these accolades, reviews, and expert endorsements, Douglas Carvalho demonstrates a high level of recognition for his contributions. His acknowledged impact on both entertainment and public life in Brazil establishes his qualifications for the O1-B visa as a professional of extraordinary ability whose work has been formally recognized by reputable entities.

**Evidence that the beneficiary has either commanded a high salary or will command a high salary or other substantial remuneration for services in relation to others in the field, as evidenced by contracts or other reliable evidence**

Douglas Carvalho’s ability to command a high salary in the field of comedy, both historically and in upcoming U.S. projects, reflects his stature and marketability within the entertainment industry. In Brazil, where the average comedian’s monthly income is approximately R$8,857.68 (or roughly USD $1,581.60). In Brazil, the average monthly salary for professionals in the media, broadcasting, arts, and entertainment sectors is approximately 8,090 BRL, with a range from 3,950 BRL to 15,300 BRL, encompassing various roles within the industry, according to Salary Explorer. Specifically, stand-up comedians in São Paulo earn an average annual salary of 85,147 BRL, equating to about 7,095 BRL per month, as reported by Salary Expert. These figures provide a benchmark for evaluating remuneration within the Brazilian entertainment industry.

Douglas Carvalho’s earnings surpass these figures, underscoring his demand as a leading comedic talent. His actual earnings reflect his exceptional demand and market value as a professional comedian in Brazil, with several of his contracts illustrating a significant premium over the industry standard. Specifically, Douglas Carvalho commands a rate of R$8,400 for a one-hour performance at venues like Cizzedo Comedy Club and similar arrangements with PD7 Technology, compared to the average hourly wage for comedians in Brazil, which stands at approximately R$45.22, according to Salary Expert. This rate is over 186 times the industry average, underscoring his high value relative to peers.

In another instance, Douglas Carvalho earned R$12,000 for a 12-hour recording session for a commercial, further demonstrating his capacity to secure remuneration well above the standard for his profession in Brazil. When contrasted with the U.S. market, where comedians typically earn between $21,000 and $84,000 annually depending on experience and venue type, Douglas Carvalho’s high earnings in Brazil and the United States confirm his ability to command substantial compensation as he brings his talents to a new market.

Douglas Carvalho’s upcoming U.S. engagements provide further evidence of his capacity to command substantial remuneration. His confirmed contracts for performances in venues across Florida and Hawaii, along with his role in an anticipated documentary, demonstrate a continuation of his high earnings as he transitions into the U.S. market. These agreements reflect not only the demand for his comedic talent but also his ability to attract Brazilian audiences abroad, justifying higher pay. Given his recognized influence and cross-cultural appeal, these projected earnings align with those expected for seasoned comedians in the American industry, indicating Douglas Carvalho’s value relative to others in the field.

Moreover, endorsements from venue managers and contract details point to his recognized value, reinforcing his status as a sought-after talent whose skills command premium remuneration. These earnings are consistent with the O1-B visa criterion, affirming Douglas Carvalho’s standing as a comedian whose established and anticipated financial success attests to his extraordinary ability and high demand within the entertainment landscape.

**Conclusion**

Based on my cumulative evaluation of the submitted documents, Douglas Carvalho has exhibited qualifications that comprehensively meet the requirements of the O1-B visa, substantiating his status as a professional of extraordinary ability within the field of comedy. His career trajectory reveals a pattern of high-caliber performances and notable roles in prestigious productions, both in Brazil and internationally, underscoring his ability to command the attention of diverse and substantial audiences. Specifically, Mr. Carvalho has consistently performed in lead and starring roles on prominent Brazilian television programs, such as *Domingão do Faustão*, and in highly attended live shows, including *Os Bipolares* at Laercio Ventura Municipal Theater, which attracted over 20,000 spectators. His work is further evidenced by documented media recognition and testimonials from industry leaders, validating his reputation as a leading figure in Brazilian comedy and fulfilling the O1-B criterion for distinguished roles in reputable organizations.

In addition to his performance achievements, Mr. Carvalho’s career has been marked by significant commercial and critically acclaimed successes. His productions have consistently drawn large audiences and garnered substantial praise from major media sources, including G1 and RJ TV, which praised his work for its “intelligent humor” and noted his impact on Brazil’s comedic landscape. His capacity to attract large viewership and secure sustained critical acclaim demonstrates his influential position in the industry. Such recognition satisfies the requirement for individuals who have achieved extraordinary success as evidenced by their critical acclaim and commercial viability within the field of entertainment.

Mr. Carvalho’s remuneration further underscores his prominence and extraordinary abilities. His earnings per engagement are well above the average rates for comedians in Brazil, where his hourly rates surpass the standard by a considerable margin. This high compensation, validated by formal contracts and agreements with established venues, exemplifies his capacity to command substantial remuneration, affirming his high demand and reinforcing his exceptional market value. The premium compensation Mr. Carvalho receives relative to his peers substantiates his standing as a highly sought-after comedian, fully aligning with the O1-B visa’s criteria for substantial remuneration as evidence of extraordinary ability.

Further distinguishing Mr. Carvalho’s career is the significant recognition he has received from authoritative entities, including the Cabo Frio City Council’s Motion of Applause. This official commendation, awarded for his contributions to the cultural development of Cabo Frio, emphasizes his commitment to advancing the arts and promoting cultural enrichment. Such honors, alongside endorsements from recognized industry experts, affirm Mr. Carvalho’s respected status within his field. The governmental recognition he has earned further satisfies the O1-B requirement for evidence of achievements acknowledged by respected organizations and experts in the field.

Each of these criteria—lead and starring roles, documented commercial and critical success, high remuneration relative to industry averages, and significant recognition from respected entities—are clearly fulfilled by Mr. Carvalho’s professional record. His qualifications not only align precisely with the standards required for the O1-B classification but also highlight his unique potential to contribute to the U.S. entertainment industry through his talent, versatility, and influence. As a professional with substantial expertise in the field, I am confident that Mr. Carvalho’s demonstrated abilities will enrich the U.S. cultural landscape, and I fully support his petition for the O1-B visa.

Sincerely,



Jeff Hammer

Assistant Professor

University of North Carolina School of the Arts

November 5, 2024

**References:**

* <https://www.salaryexpert.com/salary/job/stand-up-comedian/brazil/curitiba>
* <https://g1.globo.com/>
* <https://pt.wikipedia.org/wiki/RJTV>
* [Domingão do Faustão (TV Series 1989–2021) - IMDb](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0316977/)
* [Cabo Frio: Brazil's Enchanting Coastal Retreat - BrazilBlogged 2024](https://brazilblogged.com/cabo-frio-brazils-enchanting-coastal-retreat/)