



FALL 2022

volume no. 7

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Message from the Chair

Howdy! My name is Catherine Arnold, and I'm proud to be serving as MSC Aggie Cinema's Chair for the fall 2022 - spring 2023 school year! Since rebuilding from the pandemic and coming back to in-person, our focus this year has been to grow MSC Aggie Cinema's membership.



Fortunately, we've seen many returning faces from last year continue with us this year, where some have even taken on leadership roles on the exec team! With that, they've helped create a comfortable and welcoming environment for our many new members. Externally, we're looking to get our name out there by continuing our in-person programming, optimizing our streaming site, and hosting a big spring event!

Next semester, we're planning to host a large event involving a big buzz guest speaker. As an exec team, this has taken us out of our comfort zone in terms of fundraising! So far, we've presented at an MSC Development Luncheon to former students, applied for a couple of large grants, as well as some smaller sources. With all of this time and effort, I couldn't be prouder of our exec team. We've had a successful fall semester, and we're excited to see what 2023 will bring!

Events Update

By Benjamin Hartwiger and Mehul Varma

This semester, Aggie Cinema hosted 7 super successful screenings, free for the student body. We started off with a bang at the Howdy Week screening of *Shrek* where 1,266 students erupted in applause when the opening credits rolled!



We followed up with another strong showing of *10 Things I Hate About You*, where the Aggie Cinema team was scrambling to find more chairs and cook more popcorn as the audience kept rolling in.

Next, for the screening of *Thor: Love and Thunder*, we had volunteers from the audience play pin the hammer on Thor and Jane to compete for prizes.

Then, we moved into a fright-filled October starting with the Academy Award winning *Parasite* as part of our Arthouse series. The new Jordan Peele movie *Nope* was our next choice which we ended with a carousel horse ring toss game to cap off a great night with friendly competition and Halloween candy. For Halloween, our Classics series decided to shock the student body with a the 1990's classic, *Scream*.



MEET A MEMBER

Sam Brady, class of 2026, is a Business Administration major

What made you want to join Aggie Cinema?

Sam: I love discussing film, so I wanted to find a community at Texas A&M to do that. I was really drawn to Aggie Cinema for that, and how active it is with events on campus.



What is your favorite part of Aggie Cinema?

Sam: The people I get to be with makes Aggie Cinema the highlight of my week. Everyone is such a joy to be around, and I feel like I can always be myself.



What has been your favorite Aggie Cinema event so far?

Sam: *The Social Network* screening. I'm pretty sure everything we planned ended up going right which felt great to be a part of such a smoothly run event.

What is your favorite movie?

The Secret of NIMH. That movie is every single one of my tastes rolled into one glorious burrito. NIMH is so good, even the colors give me chills.



STREAMING SITE UPDATE

AGGIECINEMA.TAMU.EDU

By Armando Vasquez

Here at MSC Aggie Cinema, we are so happy that the Texas A&M community has shown us continuous support for our streaming site, *AggieCinema.TAMU.edu*.

To start, we received 100% funding for the site from the Student Affairs Fee Advisory Board for this year. Which means we have more funds available for in-person screenings! And boy did we need it to get our events back in Rudder Theatre.

Also, we are still seeing tons of views. Since August, we have recorded almost 11,000 views, which is fantastic!

Here are the top 5 films students at Texas A&M are watching:



Meeting & Socials Update

By Shelby Morris



At the beginning of every semester, our Harry Potter sorting hat, joins us to assign new members into sub-committees. This year we have 40 members in total!



For our annual pumpkin painting social we went to the new Aggie Park and had a Halloween potluck in place of our weekly meeting. Many crazy designs were pulled off and treats were enjoyed by all!



For this semester's diversity training, we focused on the varied representations of Queer people in film. It was such a joy to hear members' opinions about what representations speak to them and why!

MEMBER FILM REVIEW:

AFTERSUN BY SEAN KERRIGAN

How do we choose to remember? What moments have we forgotten? What parts of the picture did we miss? Who are we really without our memories and or our past and our parents? And how do we process all of this?



As both an authentic and constructed therapeutic time capsule, *Aftersun* shows us a vacation director/writer Charlotte Wells took with her dad when she was 11: interspersing real home movie footage while using this film to try to fill in the gaps of these memories. Like Mike Mills' delightful *C'mon C'mon* last year, it shows us simultaneous perspectives on growing up and parenting.

It invites us to reflect: How do we choose to remember? What have we forgotten? What parts of the picture did we miss? Who are we really without memories and what it's like to try to understand our parents? And how do we process all of this?

With sunny high contrasted & saturated warm/cool cinematography from Gregory Oke, *Aftersun* yields the same feeling as a polaroid photo - combined with dreamlike editing portraying memories blending together and starting and stopping unannounced - it's deeply personal and vulnerable, lifted up by a thoroughly sweet but still melancholic/nostalgic/heart-string-tugging script. Led by outstanding performances from Paul Mescal and Frankie Corio, it becomes harder and harder to believe this really isn't her and her father.

I've always wanted to see a film like this, yet it's unlike anything I've ever seen before. One of my favorite things about movies is how a film can make you appreciate life more, and make it seem more beautiful. Last year in January, I watched *Sound of Metal* and have yet to stop thinking about it as it changed the way I notice, process, and appreciate sound almost every day now - and *Aftersun* does the same with memories, it describes the indescribable, but lets you experience it. It's something I'll never forget.

Big Plans for MSC Aggie Cinema

In spring 2022, we hosted a Zoom reunion with former Aggie Cinema members who reminisced about their favorite memories from their time in MSC Aggie Cinema. One of the experiences that stuck with me was members talking about their opportunity to meet talent from the film industry, like Spike Lee, Robert Rodriguez, Sandra Bullock, and Ethan Hawke. So, thanks to your inspiration, we'd like to give our members and today's students of Texas A&M, something BIG to look back on.

This semester, our focus has been 1) speaking to talent agents to find the right filmmaker or entertainer for our campus, and 2) raising money to fund a speaking engagement for an audience of students. We have had so much fun researching a variety of different talents and polling our campus community to see who they want.

For a well-known speaker that would reach an audience of 1,500 or more, we are aiming to reach a goal of about \$80,000 to \$100,000. So far we have reached \$55,000 through campus and Memorial Student Center grants and we are confident we can raise \$20,000 through ticket sales alone. Which means were just a few thousand short of our lowest goal!

If you'd like to help sponsor any portion of the event for any amount, let's talk. You can email me at cinema@msc.tamu.edu, or submit your donation at our donation link give.am/mscAggieCinema.

Your friend, *Catherine Arnold*



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