

# fall 2023



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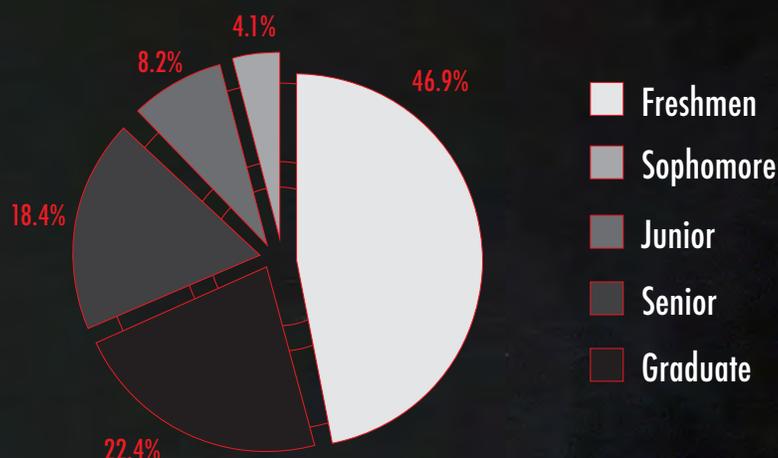
**THE ULTIMATE STUDENT MOVIE ORGANIZATION AT  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**



# WELCOME TO THE PARTY, PAL

We welcomed 16 new students to MSC Aggie Cinema this year. Here are their stats...

## ...BY CLASS YEAR



New Arthouse Member, Sophia Goaziou (right) and Student Development Director, Armando Vasquez (left) at our Sorting Hat Ceremony.

## ...BY MAJORS

- 10** Engineering
- 3** Biomedical Science
- 2** Bioenvironmental Science, Computer Science, Forensic and Investigative Sciences, Industrial Distribution, International Studies, Psychology, Undecided
- 1** Accounting, Agricultural Leadership and Development, Applied Mathematics, Architecture, Business, Chemistry, Communication, Computing, Education, Finance, Geographic Information Science and Technology, History, Human Resources, Kinesiology, Management and Information Systems, Nursing, Petroleum Engineering, Political Science, Statistics, Telecommunication and Media Studies.



# current member INTERVIEW

**What is your Name, Major, and class year?**

Jenny Knapp, Mechanical Engineering, Class of '23

**What organizations/extracurriculars are you a part of?** Aggie Cinema, Texas A&M Sounding Rocketry Team

**What made you choose Aggie Cinema?** My best friend, Catherine, was in Aggie Cinema. I did art all throughout high school so she suggested joining because it would give me a creative outlet.

**What's kept you here?** As much as I love engineering, I recognize I need a creative and social outlet outside of STEM to keep me happy. Everyone in Aggie Cinema is friendly and hanging out with them is the highlight of my week. It's been a blast getting to spread the joys of film to the Aggie student body through screenings.

**What is your favorite memory?** Meeting Jenny Slate was an incredible opportunity and I loved hearing her intentions behind Marcel the Shell. I'm passionate about creating high-quality children's media so it was great to talk with Ms. Slate about her perspectives on children's entertainment after creating Marcel.

**Do you have a favorite movie?** I don't have a favorite movie but here are three of my favorites: Carrie (1976), Interstellar (2014), and Whiplash (2014).

**Do you have a comfort movie?** All of the Harry Potter films, I enjoyed reading the books as a kid.

**Do you have a movie that you can't stand?** The most recent Joker film. I recognize that it's good but I felt it was over-hyped.





# the Howdy Week 2023

Howdy Week is the campus-wide celebration held at the beginning of each semester to officially welcome new and returning students to Aggieland before classes start. MSC Aggie Cinema plays a critical role in making Howdy Week the fun filled 7 day event students love. This fall, Aggie Cinema attended MSC Party in the Park, a gathering of MSC organizations held at Texas A&M's newest green space, Aggie Park, and held a screening of *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (2023) in Rudder Auditorium. MSC Party in the Park, held on August 17th, was an exceptional opportunity to inform students about the upcoming screening schedule for the semester, accessing the streaming site, and even becoming an Aggie Cinema member. Several students expressed interest in our organization both as an avenue for entertainment and as an opportunity to build a community. This is a great way to meet with students directly as a part of growing attendance of Aggie Cinema events and membership of the organization. The screening of *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (2023) had an impressive turnout of 1,300 students. The energy in the auditorium was electric. Over one thousand students were laughing, crying, and celebrating a new, yet nostalgic film. Students also had an opportunity to win prizes through a social media giveaway and a pre-show game. It was overall a fantastic week and a wonderful way to kick off the semester.



# IT LIVES INSIDE

## SCREENING REVIEW

This semester Aggie Cinema had the pleasure of working with QC Entertainment and Neon to host an early access screening of *It Lives Inside*, a horror film that won the Midnighter award at SXSW in 2023 . We worked with Neon representatives to bring the film along with promo items to campus. Mohana Krishnan, the co-star, is a former Texas A&M student, many of her friends showed up to the screening to see and support their fellow Aggies. Our screening happened on Wednesday, September 13th, over a week before the film's theatrical premiere on September 22nd.

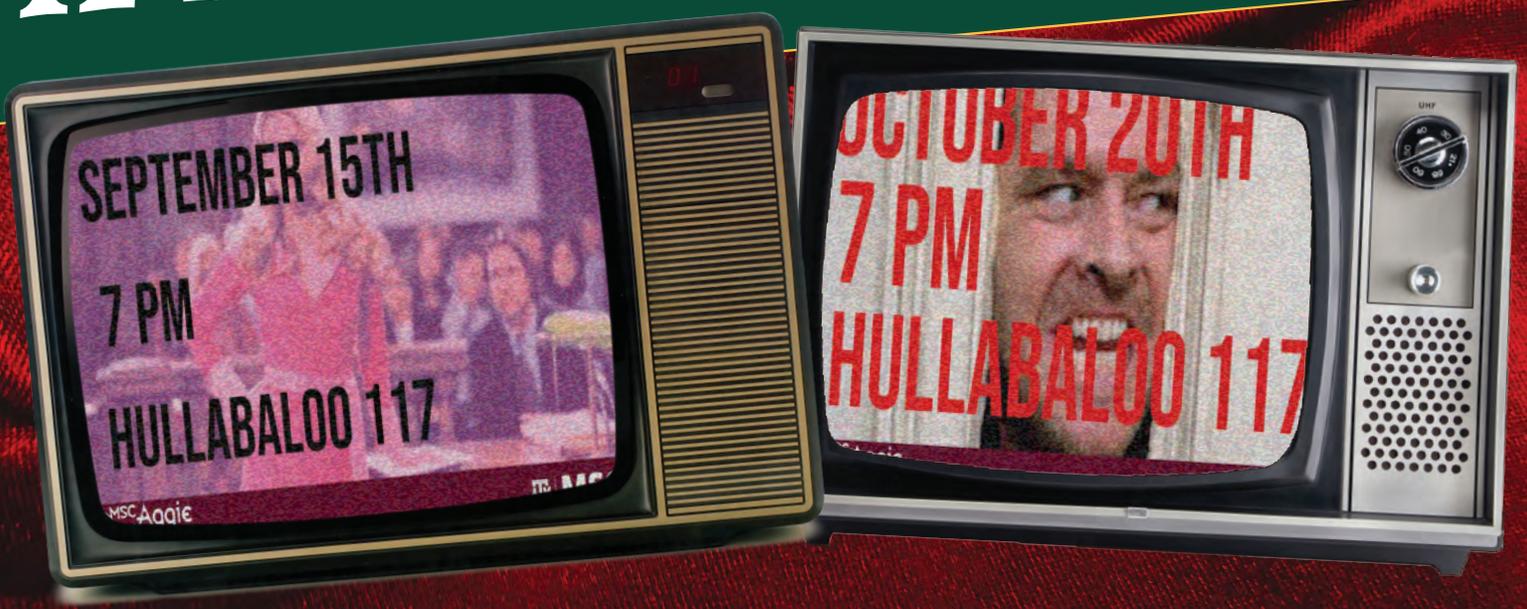
*It Lives Inside* is a drama/horror story of an Indian American, Samidha (Megan Suri), struggling to accept her heritage in light of being in high school. During a fight with her childhood best friend, Tamira (Mohana Krishnan), she accidentally breaks a glass jar that unleashes a mythological Indian Demon, Pishach. Pishach kidnaps Tamira and the story follows as Samidha searches for her friend while the demon wants to weaken Samidha's soul by causing her suffering. This film has a lot to say and it brings awareness to new audiences and assists those who are struggling with their own identity.





*Aggie Cinema's MUCH Awaited*

# X-Mas YouTube SALE!



@mscaggiecinema6260

*IS WHERE IT'S AT!*

GO TO [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) NOW &  
ACCESS FREE ORIGINAL CONTENT

# SCREENING REVIEW

## T H E T R U M A N S H O W

There are certain movies which gain mythical status in the hearts of Aggie Cinema members and film lovers alike... a movie that everyone else has seen and if you're someone like me who hasn't seen it, you find yourself trying to protect your own credibility by promising "I'm going to watch it soon" or "I'm just waiting to see it on the big screen!". The Truman Show is one such movie and until about a month ago, I was one such member.

Much like Truman himself, my interaction with his show began long before I knew what it was really about. I have been waiting to experience this movie in the company of my fellow cinema lovers, on the big screen, and without any knowledge of what may be to come. Thanks to the Arthouse subcommittee, on September 22nd I was finally able to follow Truman into a new reality while simultaneously being closely observed myself by Aggie Cinema superfans who were watching me and anticipating my every response.

Even with my curious onlookers, and maybe especially because of them, this viewing was totally awesome and completely worth the wait! It isn't often that a movie lives up to the hype but I'm here to say, quite confidently in fact, that this one does.

Good afternoon, good evening, and goodnight,  
Shelby Morris



# the • newscaster



MSC Aggie Cinema is an opportunity for movie-lovers to spread their passion around campus. It is also home to plenty of artists who engage with the medium of film in their own way. Aniket Mohapatra is a sophomore who has been a member of MSC Aggie Cinema for two years and he recently finished creating a short series called, *The Newscaster*. The series follows a disgraced news anchor trying to get his job back with the network. Aniket described the writing process as “finding odd scenarios the Newscaster character could find himself in, and then imagining the absolute worst way a person could handle themselves in that situation.”

Aniket worked with his crew to film six episodes, even when scheduling and writing became unpredictable. Aniket describes the writing process as an important learning experience for him: “it’s all about finding the right balance for what the scene and the episode needs.”

Last month, Aniket was finally able to celebrate the completion of *The Newscaster* with his star, Chris Bowers. After surprising his audience, Chris joined Aniket to premiere *The Newscaster* in front of a live audience for the first time in Rudder Tower. When speaking, Aniket described the experience as “an absolute delight. I’ve had a great time showing it to people and discussing it”. Following this milestone, Aniket continues to look ahead as he creates more films for the world to see.

The *Newscaster* is available now to view on the Aggie Cinema streaming site and on YouTube.



# "IT'S A WONDERFUL STREAMING SITE"

By Brandon LE

Here at MSC Aggie Cinema, we are so happy the campus community has shown us its continuous support for AggieCinema.TAMU.edu.

Aggie Cinema's streaming site had a fantastic year. We've had a 23% increase in viewership from last year. We've added movies that were released this year such as Asteroid City, Barbie, No Hard Feelings, Elemental, and Past Lives. To keep October a spooky month, we added a variety of horror movies such as Friday the 13th, A Nightmare Before Christmas, Hereditary, and so much more.

We started adding "Aggie Cinema Originals" to our streaming site. These are films made by your very own Aggie Cinema members. Our first 6 episode original is The Newscaster, a mockumentary about a failed news anchor. We also wrote, filmed, and edited our own 30-second "Silence your Cell Phones" public service announcement to use at our in-person screenings, but students can see the full Director's Cut of our "Silence your Cell Phones" short exclusively on our streaming site.

All is going well for our streaming site, with more original content coming its way.

The top 5 most watched movies (from most-watched to least-watched) on campus are: The Super Mario Bros Movie, Spider-Man: Across the Spider-verse, 10 Things I Hate About You, 21 Jump Street and Spider-Man: Into the Spiderverse.



# A Word from The Chair

Howdy, my name is Austin Baltes and I have been serving as the MSC Aggie Cinema chair for the 2023 - 2024 school year. This semester we have had a great run of programs, both in quality and in size, and we hope to continue pushing this in the coming semester by moving to bigger venues to help us go for larger audiences.

At the beginning of this semester, we had a large shift in our exec team, with seven new execs joining the team. With this large of a shift, the new exec team has brought an influx of new ideas that have allowed us to keep our programs feeling fresh and have kept up an incredibly high level of enthusiasm for what we do. From incredibly well-produced pre-show videos to social media posts that are each very intricate and unique. Our new exec team has raised the bar for the entire organization and has provided an incredible example for the rest of the members.

Aggie Cinema is also going through some organizational changes along with the rest of the MSC. All MSC committees are now registering as Registered Student Organizations. This will allow us more freedom in the kinds of programs we put on, while also allowing us to still stay a part of the MSC. This has meant that there have been several internal changes to Aggie Cinema, but we are excited about the opportunities these changes will give us.



# DONATION REQUEST

Over the course of the fall semester, MSC Aggie Cinema has been busy with several endeavors. We have continued to attract members through our strong community building and shared appreciation of film. We have continued to upload a variety of movies and shows to our streaming site including the Newscaster - a series co-created by one of our own members, Aniket Mohapatra. We have hosted successful screenings of a broad assortment of movies from classics like The Truman Show to recent blockbusters like Spider-man: Across the Spider-verse. Some highlights include our Howdy Week screening of The Super Mario Bros which drew well over 1,000 attendees, our exclusive screening of It Lives Inside which was held before the release of the movie, and our screening of Mean Girls which was hosted with MSC OPAS as part of their promotion for the Mean Girls stage production.

None of these achievements would be possible without the generosity of former members like you. As we head into the spring semester, we would deeply appreciate your donation that allows us to maintain and improve MSC Aggie Cinema programs across campus. By donating to MSC Aggie Cinema, you are maintaining the legacy of bringing Aggies together through the art of film.



# Thank you to all our Spring 2023 donors

Dr. Amanda R. Basford '99 and Mr. Mark Basford

Mr. Barry Gabel

Captain Brent E. Troyan '98

Mr. Daniel Harris '17

Ms. Deryle Richmond

Mr. Francis Fernandez '02 and Mrs. Adrienne Evans Fernandez '01

Mr. John Ditton and Mrs. Jeanne Ditton

Dr. Kelly Rose (Pulte) Peschke '05 and Mr. Victor Peschke

Mrs. Mary Anne (Lockamy) Smith '96 and Mr. Eric Smith '93

Mr. Richard Christian '79 and Ms. Michele Carus-Christian '85



# Thank You

<b>Austin Baltes</b>	Chair
<b>Shelby Morris</b>	Vice Chair
<b>Mary Compton</b>	Advisor
<b>Armando Vasquez</b>	Student Development
<b>Brandon Le</b>	Streaming Site Manager
<b>Aarya Kanuru</b>	Graphics Director
<b>Carlo Dal Colletto</b>	Legacy Director
<b>Cole Cummings</b>	Videographer
<b>Julia Bumguardner</b>	Blockbuster Director
<b>Sam Brady</b>	Arthouse Director
<b>Connor Field</b>	Classics Director



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