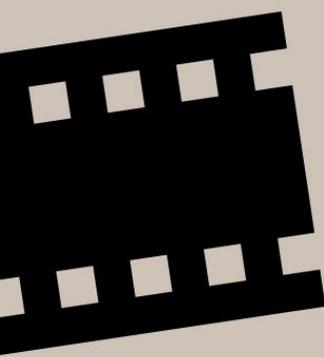


SPRING 2021 VOLUME NO. 4



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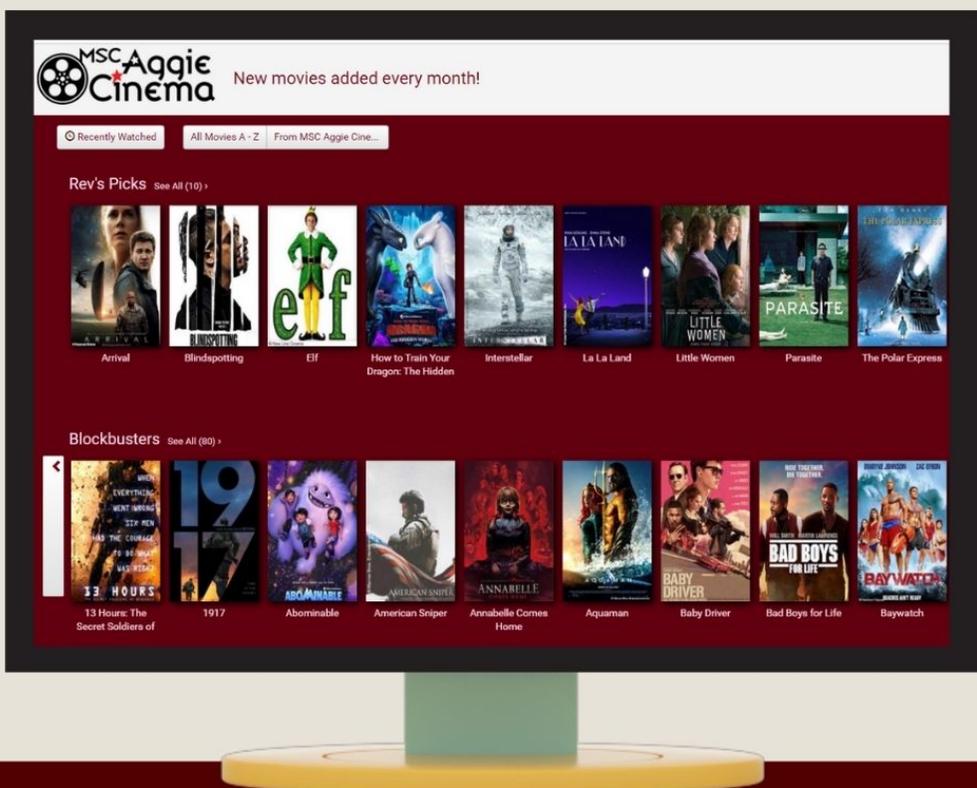
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AGGIECINEMA.TAMU.EDU

The Aggie Cinema streaming site launched in August 2020 and will continue to spring 2022! We completed a user survey with Texas A&M's Student Life Studies and found that half of site users stream movies from AggieCinema.TAMU.edu *at least once a week*, while others use it a few times a month or more. Two-thirds of students watch movies on the site with their friends. 17% of students stated that they have already cancelled another streaming service in place of using AggieCinema.TAMU.edu. We are most excited about the fact that our viewers overwhelmingly wished for us to continue the streaming service through spring 2022.

We will continue to try our hardest to keep the free streaming available to all students!



Meet Neha, the New Chair



Howdy! I'm Neha Deshmukh, and I am excited to be serving as the 2021-2022 MSC Aggie Cinema Chair! I am a junior Business Honors and Accounting major from The Woodlands, Texas. I am also pursuing minors in Film and Math. I joined Cinema in my freshman year and served as the Vice Chair during my sophomore year. I joined Aggie Cinema to share my passion for movies with others on campus. After I joined, I found such a caring and welcoming community in the committee, and as Chair, I want to keep fostering that kind of inclusive environment for current members, future members, and our screening audiences.

Film offers us a way to connect based on our collective humanity despite all our differences. Movies are a platform to see a variety of stories and experiences that will be different from our own and creates an opportunity to broaden our mindset. MSC Aggie Cinema has both a responsibility and a passion to share those perspectives with the campus community. This year, Cinema has done a great job choosing diverse movies, such as *Parasite*, *Cesar Chavez*, and *Minari*, that will truly add to the experience of the students that see them. For the coming year, I am looking forward to creating more unique, diverse, and fun movie programs to engage the campus community.

Former Member Highlight

An interview with:

Yash Bansal & Zach Priddy



On August 29, 2020, former Aggie Cinema Chairs, Yash Bansal '18 and Zach Priddy '19, released the first episode of their podcast "Cinema Convos". Aggie Cinema sat down with Yash and Zach to talk about how it's been going.

AGGIE CINEMA: Why did y'all decide to start *Cinema Convos*?

YASH BANSAL: I've always wanted to make a Youtube channel, but it's very daunting to talk on camera. I wanted to create something that was like 'What do average audiences think about movies, not just movie nerds like me and Zach'.

AGGIE CINEMA: How long does it take to record/edit the podcasts?

ZACH PRIDDY: It takes me about 8 hours, but I stretch that out over a couple of weeks. We have about an hour and fifteen minutes of raw audio and my job is to make it sound as smooth as possible.

The podcast currently has 12 episodes discussing a plethora of movies. There are 8 more episodes to be released for this season, and you can check them out on on Spotify, Anchor, Google Podcasts, or wherever you listen to your podcasts.



New Programs



For spring 2021, Aggie Cinema hosted some exciting outdoor movie screenings! We had not one, but two, drive-in movies! In March, we screened *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* with Texas A&M Class Councils where we were able to give out cool prizes throughout the night! In April, we screened *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* during Family Weekend with the office of New Student and Family Programs. We definitely hope to continue these nostalgic drive-in events next year!



A24 studio reached out to see if we were interested in hosting the new release film, *Minari*. The film is heartfelt drama about a Korean family who moves to Arkansas. Since April is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, it seemed like a great time to invite students from the Asian Presidents' Council, who helped us spread the word to their members and audiences. The screening was held outdoors under the stars on Simpson Drill Field.

MEETING UPDATE



Preventing the spread of COVID-19 was a priority at Texas A&M University all year. Weekly meetings for MSC Aggie Cinema continued on Zoom all spring. During our meetings, we utilized many of Zoom's features like breakout rooms, virtual backgrounds, and fun video filters!

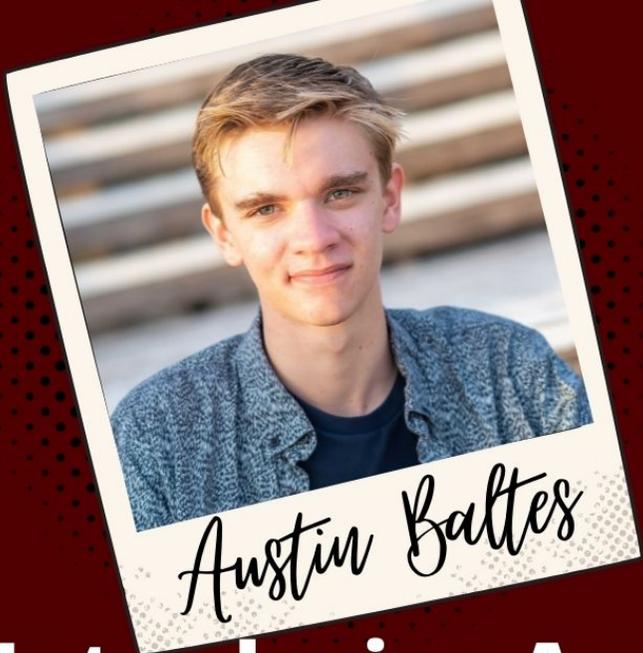
The highlight this semester was our Oscar Bracket challenge! For a bit of competition, each subcommittee was tasked with making predictions for the winners of each Oscar category, and Arthouse came out on top, predicting 16 winners out of 23 categories!



With social distancing this year, there have not been many reasons to get fancied up . . . except for the annual Aggie Cinema banquet . We ended the school year with our formal awards ceremony and a night at the movies! Members dressed up to watch *Godzilla vs. Kong* on the big screen. Oh, what a night! And what a semester!



We can't wait to see who will join our adventures next year, and what the future of our meetings, social, and events will look like!



Introducing Austin Baltes, *incoming Arthouse Director*

I am a 19 year old mechanical engineering student, class of 2024. I am from Southlake Texas, and this fall I will be the Director of the Arthouse subcommittee.

Why I joined MSC Aggie Cinema:

First of all, I always loved movies and it was great to find somewhere I could discuss them with others with similar interests. MSC Aggie Cinema was also one of the best organizations to handle the switch to virtual meetings. Even though none of us were there in person, I still felt like I was a part of the org.

Fun Facts about Me:

- Some of my favorite movies are *Heathers*, *The Big Lebowski*, *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*, and a whole bunch more. I struggle with picking just one.
- One movie I cried in was *Logan*, the final scene was so emotional.
- Other than watching movies, some of my hobbies include reading comic books and building custom Lego models.



SUPPORT US!

You can help MSC Aggie Cinema provide fun, free, and safe film events for Texas A&M students.

Donate today at give.am/mscAggieCinema



\$25 Red Carpet Sponsor

Your donation of \$25 or more can sponsor a new MSC Aggie Cinema student by paying their membership dues.



\$50 Streaming Site Sponsor

We need \$13,500 to keep the streaming site, **AggieCinema.TAMU.edu** active after July 2021. Your donation of \$50 or more can help us maintain this service into fall 2021 and spring 2022. Students report loving the convenience and accessibility of the site. They can enjoy Aggie Cinema movies from anywhere they have Wifi!



\$100 Movie Night Sponsor

Did you know the cost of film licenses and theatre rentals rises almost every year? It costs \$750 to rent a theatre, and a new release blockbuster film costs as much as \$1,200 for one screening! With a donation of \$100 or more you will be credited as a Screening Sponsor and we will thank you in our fall 2021 newsletter.

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

PREPARED BY

MSC Aggie Cinema Executive Team:

Macee Brotherton, Chair

Neha Deshmukh, Vice Chair

Dean Anderson, Arthouse Director

Catherine Arnold, Student Development

Lilly Cantrell, Blockbuster Director

Francisco Casillas, Classics Director

Sophia Martinez, Graphics Director

Jennifer Mawet, Videoeditor

Chance Nichols, Legacy Director

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2020-2021 SPONSORS

Mr. Daniel Harris

Mr. Francis Fernandez

Mrs. Jennifer Santos

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