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# PHOTO CREDITS
Page 3 (Audience: Charles Ramirez Berg), Page 7 (Productions: Bennett Cravens), Page 11 (AFS Cinema Facade: Ellen Bruxvoort; Food & Drink: Ellen Bruxvoort; Event Hall: Cecile Fusco Photography; Renovated Lobby: David Brendan Hall), Page 13 (Science on Screen: Marshall Tidrick), Page 14 (Split Screen: Charles Ramirez Berg; New French Cinema Week: Rudy Ximenez), Page 15 (Bette vs. Joan: David Brendan Hall; Last Flag Flying: Todd Williamson; Discovery: Kelly Bruemmer), Page 16 (Shirley MacLaine: David Brendan Hall), Page 17 (Kirsten Dunst and Jesse Plemons: Miguel Angel; Hector Galan: Miguel Angel; Sarah Green, Michael Shannon, Nick Kroll, Jeff Nichols: Gary Miller), Page 18 (A GHOST STORY: Gary Miller; Member Mixer: Miguel Angel).
LETTER TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

We did it! With gifts from 1,000 donors, AFS resurrected an abandoned movie theater and became full-time cinema operators on May 26, 2017. Thirty-two years into this journey, we took a great leap forward overnight, opening a café-bar and event center and multiplying our film offerings sixfold.

For our opening film, we wanted to get it just right. We selected TENDER MERCIES, a quintessentially Texas film with a theme of resurrection. Initially overlooked but eventually garnering best screenplay and best actor Academy Awards for Horton Foote and Robert Duvall, TENDER MERCIES has taken its place as an American independent film treasure, depicting a certain kind of Texan for the ages, while showing the global reach of Texas stories.

At Austin Studios, we hosted multiple feature films during 2017—homegrown, indie, and Hollywood—as well as episodic shows and dozens of commercials. Texas is a place where people want to come and film, and AFS is helping Texas become a permanent industry power despite the fact that state incentive funding has decreased. Texas has something that takes generations to build, and that is film culture. It’s the culture that is the fertile ground for a truly sustainable industry.

Film culture means preserving and showing the great films from the past and from all over the world—films that offer a window into others’ experiences and perspectives, that provide us with understanding of the times we live in, and wondrously entertain.

Film culture also means that filmmaking is woven into the fabric of the community and made accessible to all who are drawn to this art form, which is integral to Austin’s identity. At our community media center, Austin Public, we ran filmmaker and community programs that put dollars, cameras, and knowledge into the hands of hundreds of emerging and aspiring filmmakers and youth during out-of-school time. Through AFS Grants, we distributed over $100,000 in cash to Texas filmmakers and ran workshops, labs, and peer-review programs designed to position artists for career leaps. Our filmmakers received critical acclaim, won awards, and garnered international attention for Austin.

The stories, statistics, and credits in this annual report are our tribute to the people who make this Texas film community great. Whether we are filmmakers, moviegoers, journalists, civic leaders, or philanthropists—we are all working together to see Austin thrive.

We thank you for another best-ever year as we work to fulfill the potential of the Austin Film Society to make Austin synonymous with great film.

Rebecca Campbell, CEO
Richard Linklater, Artistic Director
MAKE

THE RABBIT HUNT
MEDIA MAKING: AN ESSENTIAL SKILL

AFS teaches the art and craft of filmmaking to Austin’s youth for enrichment and literacy via afterschool programs in AISD public schools, summer camps, partnerships, tours, and workshops.

Our annual Summer Camp at Austin Public introduced two new camp themes: Special Effects and Speak Loud / Use Your Voice. Speak Loud, a program for teens, explores the power of film as a platform to address pressing social issues.

AFS amplified our youth outreach through partnerships, which extended AFS resources and education programs to new youth audiences. Our FY17 partners included the Andy Roddick Foundation, AISD, The Contemporary Austin, Young Journey, Latinitas, COA Youth & Family Services (Youth Career Fest), Alliance for Media Arts and Culture, Alamo Drafthouse, The Austin/Travis County Summer Youth Employment Program and HEB Tournament of Champions.

AFS Film Club at Ortega Elementary produced an exceptional film which won an audience award at the 2017 Emergencia Youth Film Competition (part of the Cine Las Americas International Film Festival).
TOOLS & TRAINING FOR ALL

AFS teaches the craft of filmmaking to filmmakers of all levels. Tools, training and education programs are offered via our community media center, Austin Public, where affordable options and scholarships ensure access for the entire community.

Among the many special workshops and professional development programs offered, some of our most popular were documentary master classes with Kirsten Johnson and Robert Greene (presented by the International Documentary Association), mask-making with special effects makeup artist Eric Zapata, shooting on film with Kodak, and a day-long grip training which attracted students from around the state.

† AFS retooled the Austin Public Producer program, which offers community access to production resources, including equipment, studios and channels. With the changes to the program, AFS was able to significantly lower the cost of entry to new producers, making the program more accessible to all. This year also brought an expansion to Austin Public’s regular program of classes, with additions such as Intermediate Cinematography, Intermediate Editing, and Intro to DaVinci Color Correction.
PRODUCTION RESOURCES FOR PROFESSIONALS

AFS offers an array of production facilities from offices to sound stages to support Austin’s growing creative media community. This essential infrastructure allows businesses and productions to thrive, generating a significant cultural and economic impact for our city.

63
PRODUCTIONS AT AUSTIN STUDIOS

2,916
JOBS CREATED THROUGH USE OF AUSTIN STUDIOS

$364m
ECONOMIC IMPACT TO AUSTIN & THE SURROUNDING AREA
WORKS-IN-PROGRESS

Eleven feature film projects took advantage of the AFS Works-In-Progress program to seek peer-level critiques of their rough cuts. The 2017 SXSW line-up included four feature films that had participated in the program: THROUGH THE REPELLENT FENCE; THE HONOR FARM; BARRACUDA; and THE SECRET LIFE OF LANCE LETSCHER.

AFS TRAVEL GRANT

In order to help filmmakers take advantage of the most critical relationship development and career opportunities, AFS provides travel grants to artists when their films are invited to the world’s most prestigious film festivals, development labs, and fellowship programs. Supported by AFS Travel Grants, Patrick Bresnan and Ivete Lucas accompanied their short documentary, THE RABBIT HUNT, to Sundance and the Berlinale.

AFS GRANT

Yen Tan was one of the 34 filmmakers whose projects received support from AFS Grant funds in 2017. Yen’s narrative feature film, 1985, was awarded $10,000 in cash, which will go towards the costs of post-production. When the film is complete, Yen will have the option to create a 35mm exhibition film print of the movie to show at festivals and 35mm-equipped theaters, thanks to an additional in-kind AFS Grant from Kodak.

AFS supports promising Texas artists, nurturing them towards career leaps by providing grants, programs, and services.
ARTIST INTENSIVE

Focusing on the creative development of emerging narrative writer/directors, the AFS Artist Intensive is an annual program that brings together a group of producing mentors and creative advisors to workshop three feature film projects at the development phase. This year’s mentors included James Ponsoldt (THE SPECTACULAR NOW, THE END OF THE TOUR); Athina Rachel Tsangari (CHEVALIER, ATTENBERG); Jay Van Hoy (THE WITCH, AMERICAN HONEY); Suzanne Weinert (HELLION, EXTERMINATORS); and AFS Artistic Director Richard Linklater.

James Ponsoldt workshops a scene with Artist Intensive writer/director Rebecca Eskreis (WHAT BREAKS THE ICE), with help from actor Katie Folger.
WELCOME TO THE AFS CINEMA

In May 2017, AFS opened the doors of its first dedicated art house cinema. With two screens to show a full slate of diverse film programming, an event space, and a lobby featuring a bar and café, AFS’s dream of a community-centric film space came true.

AFS assembled a team of advisors with deep experience in real estate, architecture, construction, hospitality, and film exhibition to consult on the AFS Cinema. Special thanks to these members of the team: Architecture: Michael Hsu Office of Architecture, DesignTrait; Graphic Design: Foxtrot; Legal: Rick Triplett / Graves Dougherty Hearon & Moody; and Project Management: Catherine Sckerl / Espero Planning & Design.

To host an event at the AFS Cinema, contact rentals@austinfilm.org.
A HOME FOR CLASSIC & GLOBAL CINEMA

The AFS Cinema brings global film culture to Austin. Our signature programs offer everything from classic, archival, and restored repertory films to new discoveries from around the globe.
AN ART HOUSE FOR THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY

AFS Cinema is a place for new films that wouldn’t otherwise make it to Austin theaters. Community gatherings and panel discussions took place at screenings of important new releases such as DOLORES, a documentary about activist Dolores Huerta, and HUMAN FLOW, artist Ai Weiwei’s chronicle of the global refugee crisis.
FILMMAKER CENTRAL

The AFS Cinema is a place for local and international artists to meet audiences and present their work in person. Highlights this year include welcoming Kogonada, the director of COLUMBUS, emerging French filmmakers for New French Cinema week, and a reunion of Texas filmmakers who joined John Pierson after a screening of his newly re-released independent film show, Split Screen.

The AFS Cinema is becoming a key destination for the exhibition of work by Texas artists. Recent Texas film presentations at the cinema have included BOMB CITY, BARRACUDA, THROUGH THE REPELLENT FENCE, THE SENSITIVES, and STUMPED, among others.
CELEBRATING FOR A CAUSE

From a “Bette vs. Joan” Pride Week Party to the Texas premiere of Richard Linklater’s LAST FLAG FLYING, special events and premiere screenings brought in new audiences and raised funds for AFS’s artistic programs.
TEXAS FILM AWARDS

AFS develops Austin and Texas’ reputation as a cultural and creative capital.

The 2017 Texas Film Awards took place on March 9th at Austin Studios and honored influential industry players who have earned their spot in the Texas Film Hall of Fame. Proceeds from the event benefit Austin Film Society’s artistic and educational programs.

This year’s honorees included:

Shirley MacLaine, presented by Richard Linklater
Jeff Nichols, presented by Michael Shannon
Hector Galán, presented by Henry Cisneros
Sarah Green, presented by Nick Kroll
Tye Sheridan, presented by David Gordon Green
MEMBERSHIP

AFS nourishes Austin's creative community and builds audiences for film with year-round membership events and benefits.

Contact us at membership@austinfilm.org to become a member.
Financial performance for AFS’s most recently audited fiscal year.

**FINANCIALS**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

**ASSETS**

- Cash: $1,218,257
- Receivables: $279,595
- Investments: $402,951
- Property and Equipment: $1,074,178
- Other Assets: $74,192

**Total Assets:** $3,049,173

**EXPENSES**

- Film Programs: $1,460,924
- Austin Studios: $1,025,312
- Artist Services: $585,907
- Community Media: $539,190
- Administration: $721,403

**Total Expenses:** $4,332,736

**INCREASE IN NET ASSETS — $652,389**

**NET ASSETS — $2,666,828**

**LIABILITIES**

- Accounts Payable: $82,328
- Security Deposits: $61,834
- Deferred Revenue: $43,285
- Accrued Liabilities: $35,491
- Other Liabilities: $159,407

**Total Liabilities:** $382,345

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURES**

**REVENUES**

- Contributions and Grants: $2,443,344
- Rental Income: $1,363,769
- Capital Campaign Contributions: $491,265
- Admissions and Concessions: $191,191
- Membership Dues: $105,806
- Other Program Revenue: $115,191
- Other Income: $273,985

**Total Revenues:** $4,985,125

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURES**

**EXPENSES BY FUNCTION**

- Administration: 17%
- Film Programs: 34%
- Austin Studios: 24%
- Community Media: 12%
- Artist Services: 13%

**Fiscal Year 2016**

(September 1, 2015-August 31, 2016)

Full audit available on request.
THANK YOU

Artist Services, Film Education, AFS Cinema.
AFS supporters help the film community through various giving opportunities.

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