# **AUTISM SOCIETY** Improving the Lives of All Affected by Autism

# PRESENTS



AFS CINEMA, 6259 MIDDLE FISKVILLE RD, AUSTIN, TX 78752



#### MISSION

The Autism Society of Texas is focused on improving the lives of all affected by autism. "It takes a village to raise a child" is an old African proverb which is no less true today, especially if you are a family affected by autism. The Autism Society of Texas is a grassroots organization dedicated to connecting families and individuals to community resources and support throughout Texas.



#### **SUPPORT**

We support individuals and families through support groups and social groups.

#### RECREATION

We sponsor recreational and social events for families and individuals with autism.

## **EDUCATION**

We are committed to educating families and communities to better understand autism.

#### **ADVOCACY**

Texas

We advocate on behalf of Texans living with autism.



When I discovered that the Autism Society was hosting a swim program for autistic children, I knew immediately that I had to get my son, Jordan, involved. My son, Jordan, is a 4 year old autistic child who loves the water but strongly dislikes the sensation of water near his head. My son enjoyed the program so much that we decided to continue with lessons. We are now two months in and he is beginning to dip his head underwater! This could not have happened without the Autism Society who made this opportunity possible for us. We couldn't be happier."

-Lacey Rodriguez Parent

Facebook.com/ASOTX

## **ABOUT AUTISM**

- Autism is a developmental disability that usually appears in the first three years of life. Autism is a "spectrum disorder" meaning that it looks different in different people.
- In general, people with autism typically have severe difficulties with communication, behavior, and social relationships.
- The incidence of autism has increased in recent years to an approximate occurrence of 1 in 59 per CDC 2018.
- There is no known cure for autism; however, autism is treatable. Children do not "outgrow" autism, but studies show that early diagnosis and intervention lead to significantly improved outcomes.





The Autism Awareness Ribbon — The puzzle pattern reflects the complexity of the autism spectrum. The different colors and shapes represent the diversity of the people and families living with the condition. The brightness of the ribbon signals hope — hope that through increased awareness of autism, and through early intervention and access to appropriate services/supports, people with autism will lead full lives able to interact with the world on their own terms.

## HOW YOUR SUPPORT HELPS

Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability. As a result, requests for help from the Autism Society of Texas continue to increase dramatically as families affected by autism face a lifetime of needed support.

All proceeds from our signature fundraising events remain in Texas to directly help and support our families here in Texas. The Autism Society of Texas is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

The Autism Society of Texas continues to grow exponentially while having strong measurable impact on improving the lives of all affected with autism - all ages and stages. The individuals and families we support are deeply impacted by autism in every aspect of their lives. Their personal stories of inspiration continue to motivate me to give more of myself and seek solutions and partnerships for the Autism Society of Texas that will continue to positively impact our communities and improve lives."

> -Kathy Palomo AST Board President

#### **ABOUT THE AUTISM FILM FESTIVAL**

The Autism Film Festival, known as AutFest Texas, was created by the Autism Society of Texas to raise awareness by showcasing films and videos that portray life with autism in an honest and responsible way. Films will be selected based on highlighting the strengths of autism and elevating autistic voices by showcasing the autism experience or filmmakers themselves. We intend to show a range of ages, abilities, challenges and triumphs (however big or small) that living with autism can bring. Through film, we will tell the story of our autism community. A panel discussion following one of the films will allow attendees to ask questions and learn more.



This year will mark the Autism Society's third annual Autism Film Festival. Our event will be held at the Austin Film Society's AFS Cinema in North Austin, from approximately 4:00 -9 pm on Sunday, November 4, 2018. One feature film will be shown at the festival, and a selection of submitted shorts. The festival will also include time to mingle and eat with fellow film fest attendees. Detailed schedule to be announced in September following film selection.

Level	Film Sponsor	Leading Role Sponsor	Star Sponsor	Spotlight Sponsor	Popcorn Sponsor
	\$5,000	\$2,500	\$1,000	\$500	\$250
You receive	4 Combo tickets	3 Combo tickets	2 Combo tickets		
Logo displayed prominently at the Film Festival	•	•	•		
Named Presenting Sponsor	•				
Logo on event poster and film screens	•	•	•	•	•
Logo with clickable link on event page	•	•	•	•	
Social media and onsite recognition	•	•	•	•	•
VIP reserved seating at Film Festival	•				
Press release announcing sponsorship	•	•			

#### SPONSORSHIP LEVELS & BENEFITS

For more information, contact Interim Executive Director of Autism Society of Texas: Joy Alexander 512-479-4199 joy@texasautismsociety.org

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

As an additional way to activate your sponsorship, we have event volunteer opportunities for your employees to participate and get involved with the Autism Film Festival. For more information, contact info@texasautismsociety.org