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Slackery News Tidbits: February 17, 2014

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on February 17, 2014 - 2:00pm in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- Local filmmaker [Richard Linklater](#) won the Berlin Film Festival's Silver Bear award for best director for his long-awaited feature *Boyhood*, which chronicles the life of a child from age six to 18 and stars native Texan [Ethan Hawke](#) and [Patricia Arquette](#), [Indiewire reports](#). University alumnus Wes Anderson's movie *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, slated to hit U.S. theaters March 7, also won the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize (a kind of runner-up to the Golden Bear for Best Picture).
- Drafthouse Films-distributed documentary *The Act of Killing* ([Elizabeth's review](#)) took home the Best Documentary Feature award at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) ceremony on Sunday. The Best British Film award went to the movie *Gravity*, which stars Austin-based actress Sandra Bullock.
- Variance Films has partnered with filmmaker Chris Eska to bring his feature *The Retrieval* ([Don's review](#)) to theaters this spring, according to [Variety](#). The Civil War drama tells the story of a boy who is sent north by his bounty-hunter gang to retrieve a wanted man.
- The Austin Film Society will host a special screening of *From Dusk Till Dawn*, about a duo of criminals and their hostages who unknowingly seek refuge in a bar populated by vampires, on Wednesday, March 5 at the Marchesa Hall & Theatre. [Tickets](#) go on sale Feb. 26. Actor [Fred Williamson](#), who played Frost in the movie, will speak at [AFS's Moviemaker Dialogue](#) before the screening.
- Fantastic Fest 2013 audience favorite *Cheap Thrills* ([Mike's review](#)) makes its U.S. theatrical release on March 21. The comedy thriller follows a financially-strapped family man who gets roped into a mysterious wealthy couple's series of dares.
- On March 20 and 21, donations made to the [Austin Film Festival](#) will be doubled and donated to the Children's Blood & Cancer Center at Dell's Children's Medical Center of Central Texas through AFF's participation in this year's [Amplify Austin](#) - a 24-hour "festival of giving." AFF's support of the children's center continues during spring break, when the nonprofit will host a free stop motion, short movie workshop for patients undergoing treatments.

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