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Slackery News Tidbits: April 14, 2014

By [Jordan Gass-Poore](#) on April 14, 2014 - 10:00am in [Slackery News Tidbits](#)

Here's the latest Austin and Texas film news.

- Congratulations to filmmaker/University of Texas lecturer Kat Candler ([Debbie's interview](#)) on her 2014 Dallas International Film Festival's Grand Jury Narrative Prize for *Hellion* ([Debbie's review](#)). Texas native [Darius Clark Monroe's](#) movie *Evolution of a Criminal* also won the Documentary Feature Special Jury Prize for Directorial Vision. The Texas Grand Jury Prize went to *Flutter* ([Debbie's review](#)), with a special jury prize to the East Texas documentary *Tomato Republic*. Austin filmmaker John Fiege's documentary *Above All Else* ([Don's review](#), [Elizabeth's interview](#)) won a special jury prize in the Silver Heart category. Here's the [full list of awards](#).
- The [17th Annual Cine Las Americas International Film Festival](#) announced its full lineup last week. The Marchesa Hall and Theater will feature the festival's opening and closing-night movies, international new releases and "[Hecho en Tejas](#)," a category devoted to movies made in Texas, including the documentary *Las Marthas*, about the annual Laredo-based celebration honoring President George Washington, where debutantes dress as American Revolutionaries.
- Screenings for this year's Cine Las Americas will take place at the Alamo Drafthouse Village and the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center. San Antonio filmmaker [Efrain Gutierrez](#), whose 1970s microindies are considered to be the first Chicano films, will also be honored during the festival, which takes place April 22-27.
- Television station AMC has returned to sponsor and judge this year's [Austin Film Festival and Conference's One-Hour Pilot Award](#) for the Teleplay Competition. The award is open to any pilot script written in the one-hour format for an original TV series. Finalists will be given the opportunity to meet with a representative of AMC during the event, which takes place Oct. 23-30, or over the phone at a later date.
- In more AFF news, the fourth season of *On Story: Presented by the Austin Film Festival* premieres Saturday on KLRU-Q. This 14-episode season features interviews with *Breaking Bad* creator Vince Gilligan and filmmaker Richard Kelly (*Donnie Darko*), among others. You can watch past episodes [here](#).
- AFF news continues: AFF 2013 film *Scraper*, about the relationship between a man who makes his living trolling the back alleys of Seattle looking for scrap metal and a teenage runaway, is now available on [VOD](#).
- The [Fourth Annual John Wayne Film Festival](#), which takes place April 24-27, has been relocated from Snyder, Texas to Dallas at LOOK Cinemas, [The Dallas Morning News](#) reports. The festival benefits the John Wayne Cancer Foundation.
- Austin-based Hammer to Nail magazine editor and filmmaker [Michael Tully's Ping Pong Summer](#), starring Susan Sarandon, won the audience award for Best Narrative Feature at this year's Sarasota Film Festival, [Indiewire](#) reports.
- Austinites [Mallory Culbert's](#) and [Carlyn Hudson's](#) "unromantic comedy," *The Big Spoon*, is set to shoot in Austin this summer or fall. Starring Alex Karpovsky (*Girls*), the movie is about the perils of relationships that last past their expiration date. The movie's filmmakers have created a [Kickstarter](#) campaign to raise the final \$35,000 to begin production.
- The Austin-shot indie comedy *Zero Charisma* ([Jette's review](#)) is now available on [DVD](#). *Zero Charisma*, about an obsessive fantasy gamer who struggles to defend his tabletop turf and fellow role players from a neo-nerd hipster, stars [Sam Eidson](#) (*My Sucky Teen Romance*) and [Dakin Matthews](#) (*True Grit*, *Desperate Housewives*). The movie's filmmakers received a \$5,000 Austin Film Society Grant for the film.
- The Weinstein's Radius-TWC is partnering with UT alums [Jay](#) and [Mark Duplass](#) and Blumhouse Productions on a *Creep* trilogy, following the horror-comedy's SXSW 2014 world premiere, [Variety](#) reports. *Creep* ([Mike's review](#)), about a man who answers a cryptic ad online, is slated for release later this year, while the second and third movie in the trilogy are already in the works.
- Finally, listen to UT alum [David Wingo's](#) soundtrack for fellow Austinite [David Gordon Green's](#) movie *Joe* on [Paste](#). The drama, starring Nicholas Cage, follows an ex-con and a 15-year-old boy in an unlikely partnership.

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