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## **Lone Star Film Society Adds Staff, Strengthens Core Team**

**FORT WORTH, Texas** – Aug. 15, 2011 – The Lone Star Film Society (LSFS) today announced some additions and changes to its staff roster, in anticipation of another successful Lone Star International Film Festival Fort Worth in Sundance Square this November. Namely, Alec Jhangiani has been named Director of the film society and Kelly Williams has joined the team as Programming Director.

“Our seasoned team is primed to make the 2011 festival the society’s best yet. I’m very excited about the direction we’re headed,” said Jhangiani. “Our focus for the festival includes a greater emphasis on uncovering the talent, trends and distribution methods that are shaping our art and industry. The addition of Kelly to the team will help us take that concept to the next level.”

Kelly Williams has worked the world of film festivals for over ten years before joining the Lone Star International Film Festival team as Director of Programming. Most recently, he served as the Film Program Director at the Austin Film Festival from 2004 until 2011. While there, he programmed features and shorts as well as oversaw the full scope of the festival’s programming. At AFF, he helped to establish Animated Short, Documentary Feature and Documentary Short competitions as well as the Comedy Vanguard section, a showcase for new independent comedy filmmakers. He also began the Funniest Filmmaker in Austin contest for local comedy filmmakers in 2006. He was awarded the International Film Festival Summit Excellence Award for his "significant contribution to the success of the festival" in 2007.

In addition, he has produced numerous award-winning short films, including the Student Academy Award nominee *Perils in Nude Modeling* (which screened at over 100 festivals), and also wrote and directed the award winning short film *Richard* and the documentary short *Sid Smith for Congress*. In 2011, he produced the feature films *Pictures of Superheroes* and *Cinema Six*, both films are currently in post-production. In the summer of 2011 he produced filmmaker Kat Candler’s short, *Hellion*. Williams is a graduate of the film program at the University of Texas at Austin.

Jhangiani joined the Lone Star Film Society in 2007 as Director of Programming and is a founding staff member of the film festival. He became Artistic Director in 2009. In 2008 he worked in the Art Department on Terrence Malick’s Palme D’Or winning *Tree of Life* and is a Production Consultant on Malick’s latest *Untitled* project. He worked with writer/director James Johnston in producing the short films *Merrily, Merrily* and *Receive Bacon* and is a Producer on Johnston’s most recent short *Knife*. He is currently working as a Producer developing Johnston’s debut feature *Vacilador* as well as in post production on writer/director Daniel Tarr’s short film *Sherman and Pacifico*. He is an Associate Producer on David

Lowery's latest feature effort *Ain't Them Bodies Saints*, which was recently selected to participate in the Sundance Producing Labs. He also works in various capacities developing several additional short and feature film projects.

Additional changes to the staff include title changes to significant contributors to the success of the society and the festival, including:

Ramtin Nikzad - Development Manager  
Kelley Loyd - Community Relations Coordinator  
Stephanie Barron - Operations Coordinator  
Jed Silva - Film Program Manager

"These are the individuals who make it happen. Their dedication to the film industry and our mission is what has made the society and the festival the success that it is today," said Jhangiani.

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**About Lone Star International Film Festival:**

In its fifth year, the Lone Star International Film Festival (LSIFF) Fort Worth in Sundance Square is an annual event hosted by the Lone Star Film Society. The festival seeks to uncover and platform emerging films, talent, trends, production methods and distribution models that will shape the future of film. The LSIFF supports and accelerates new paradigms of alternative distribution by creating a forum for groundbreaking talent and thought leaders to experiment with and share ideas about the changing landscape the film industry.