

STUDIO MOVIE GRILL

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**Studio Movie Grill Founder/CEO Brian Schultz honored
with The Stodghill Award at the inaugural DFS Spotlight Luncheon**



SMG's CEO/Founder Brian Schultz with The Stodghill Award (Photo by Jane Stephens)

Dallas, TX (February 22, 2018) – On Wednesday, February 21st, 2018, the Dallas Film Society honored Studio Movie Grill Founder/CEO Brian Schultz with The Stodghill Award, which celebrates an individual and their long-term efforts in supporting the art of film, at a casual and energetic DFS Spotlight Luncheon at the Four Corners Brewing Company.

Dallas Film Society CEO & President Johnathan Brownlee said, “I don’t think mid-week luncheons get much better than that. I think some people had to go take a nap after that one! The support from the community was truly overwhelming and helped the Dallas Film Society honor Brian with the first Stodghill Award, raising much needed funds for our school and Veterans Institute for Film & Media education programs.”



Steve Stodghill, Brian Schultz, Johnathan Brownlee (Photo by Jane Stephens)

The first DFS Spotlight Luncheon and debut of The Stodghill Award (designed by Brad Oldham) was a quirky, casual event. Lunch was served at Four Corners Brewery by In-n-Out Burgers. Throughout the venue were specialty cocktail stations and samples from various food festivals and restaurants in Dallas and a green “football field” carpet, following the event’s theme: the Adam Sandler comedy, THE WATERBOY. The film holds a special significance for Schultz, as THE WATERBOY was the Studio Movie Grill’s first major success screening a first-run studio film at their theaters.

Much fun was had at the unveiling of the impressive looking award due to the idea of both Stodghill and Schultz possibly needing some help lifting them up, due to their substantial weight.



SMG's Brian Schultz speaks, following the presentation of The Stodghill Award (Photo by Jane Stephens)

Schultz is the Founder/CEO of Studio Movie Grill (“SMG”), the original cinema-dining concept combining first-run movies with table service restaurants. Schultz is credited as the leader and innovator of this rapidly growing segment of the exhibition industry.

Schultz said, “I’m incredibly honored to receive the inaugural Stodghill Award from the Dallas Film Society. It was wonderful to see so many friends and associates who came out to this event at Four Corners Brewery on a cold and rainy day, knowing that the funds raised will go towards education and outreach programs, which are aligned with our mission at SMG to open hearts and minds, one story at a time. It was also personally moving to watch the tribute video shown at the event, created by DFS filmmakers and Charlie Uniform Tango, because it demonstrated to me just how far we have come in leaving a positive wake and fulfilling that mission.”



The DFS Spotlight Luncheon crowd enjoying the tribute video. (Photo by Jane Stephens)

SMG attracts more than 11 million patrons annually and hosts thousands of corporate and special events. A leader among businesses in the arena of conscious business initiatives, and with a company-wide mission to open hearts and minds one story at a time, SMG works tirelessly with the communities surrounding their theaters to better the lives of their guests. This includes a number of varied charitable initiatives, its 15-year-old legacy special needs screening program, Chefs for Children, funding charitable projects, community building and outreach initiatives, and supporting additional fundraising events and film festivals.

All proceeds from the event went to support DFS's year-round education and community outreach programs.



(Photo #1) Steve Stodghill, EARTHxFilm's Michael Cain, DIFF's James Faust
(Photo #2) Honoree Brian Schultz being interviewed
(Photo #3) SMG's Lynne McQuaker, Danielle Hawthorne, Justina Walford,
and EARTHxFilm's Melanie Yonks with DFS's Johnathan Brownlee
(All photos by Jane Stephens)

About Studio Movie Grill

Established in 2000, Studio Movie Grill modernized the traditional movie-going experience by combining first-run movies with full-service, in-theater dining. SMG has swiftly grown to 30 locations in 9 states. SMG was named to *Inc. Magazine's* List of Fastest Growing Private Companies two years in a row. As a commitment to its mission, Opening Hearts and Minds One Story at a Time, SMG's long-standing Special Needs Screenings, Chefs for Children community programs and annual Opening Hearts and Minds Awards continue to help families and acknowledge heroes everywhere. For additional information, visit www.studiomoviegrill.com.

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